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CULTURAL GALORE

The curious case of the collectible

The meaning of 'collectible' is changing — from rare antiques to items with contemporary artistic value

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SIR: electoral inclusion and public trust in EC

CSDS SURVEY » PAGE 7

How does plastic pollution affect health?

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Aussie cricket legend Simpson passes away

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Trump drops ceasefire demand, says Kyiv should make a deal to end war

Reuters
WASHINGTON/MOSCOW/KYIV

Ukraine should make a deal to end the war with Russia because "Russia is a very big power, and they're not", U.S. President Donald Trump said on Saturday, after hosting a summit with Russian President Vladimir Putin that failed to yield a ceasefire.

Mr. Trump also agreed with Mr. Putin that negotiators should go straight to a peace settlement, not via a ceasefire as Ukraine and its European allies – until now with U.S. support – have been demanding.

Calling the meeting "timely and extremely useful", Mr. Putin said that Russia respects the U.S.'s position on the conflict, which, he said, Moscow seeks to end peacefully.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who spoke to Mr. Trump on the phone after the summit, said he would travel to the U.S. on Monday. Before the summit, Mr. Trump had said he would not be happy unless a ceasefire is agreed upon. However, he later said that a three-way meeting will be scheduled if "all works out" after his talks with Mr. Zelenskyy.

NO DEAL ON UKRAINE
» PAGE 14
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Firm grasp: U.S. President Donald Trump shakes hands with Russian President Vladimir Putin after their news conference at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, on Friday night. AP

India welcomes the 'progress' made to end Ukraine conflict

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

India on Saturday welcomed the summit between U.S. President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin in Alaska and appreciated the "progress made" on a path to ending the conflict in Ukraine. Although the meeting ended without any concrete announcement, the cordial nature of the summit could mean some relief for India facing 50% tariffs on its exports to the U.S., including 25% penalty tariffs for the import of Russian oil.

However, Mr. Trump did not make a categorical statement that these would now be reconsidered.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the Presidents' "leadership in the pursuit of peace is highly commendable".

"The way forward can only be through diplomacy. The world wants to see an early end to the conflict in Ukraine," it said in a statement.

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Govt. says SC cannot treat Governors as 'aliens or foreigners'

A Governor is not a mere 'post office', but a check on 'hasty legislation' by the States, Centre tells SC ahead of hearing on Presidential Reference

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court cannot treat Governors as "aliens" or "foreigners" on whom timelines can be imposed and whose discretion does not count, the Union government has said in a submission. It said that a Governor was not a mere "post office", but a check on "hasty legislation" by the States.

The submission by the Centre, made in a note authored by Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, is part of the record in a Presidential Reference to be heard by a Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai from Tuesday. The reference stems from an April judgment by a two-judge Bench, imposing a three-month deadline on the Governors and the President when dealing with State Bills, and declaring that Governors could not use their discretion in dealing with these Bills.

Though Tamil Nadu submitted that Presidential References could not be used to reopen or nullify the top court's judgments, Mr. Mehta maintained that the April ruling had trespassed upon a zone exclusive to the President and Governors.

> Governors are not just emissaries of the Centre. The Governors possess democratic legitimacy through indirect democratic representation. Governors are appointed by the President on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers... Governors are constitutional actors
> Submission by the Centre

The submission is part of the Presidential Reference over a judgment in a plea against the Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi's delay in clearing State Bills.

'No existing provision'

He submitted that neither Article 200 (Governor's power to assent to State Bills) nor Article 201 (President's power to consider State Bills referred to her by the Governor for consideration) provided any specific time limit.

"The absence of any express time limit in Articles 200 and 201 is a deliberate and conscious constitutional choice. The judicial direction of imposition of any timeline would amount to an amendment to the Constitution," Mr. Mehta emphasised.

"Governors are not to be treated as alien/foreigner in the federating units of the Union. Governors are not just emissaries of the Centre.... Governors are constitutional actors," Mr. Mehta submitted. The Supreme Court's approach ought to have been more calibrated, he said.

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NEARBY

Lokayukta raided 219 officials since January 2023

BENGALURU
Lokayukta Police registered 218 disproportionate assets (DA) cases and raided 219 State government officials in Karnataka since 2023.
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State awaits Central grants of ₹880 crore

BENGALURU
Even as the State has marked 97% progress under the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) and the Tribals Sub-Plan (TSP), Karnataka is awaiting ₹880 crore from the Centre . » PAGE 5

'Implement report on internal quota'

BENGALURU
Devanur Mahadeva has written to the Chief Minister urging him to implement the recommendations of the H.N. Nagamohan Das Commission report. » PAGE 5

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Tussle over burials

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With the ongoing SIT probe into the alleged burial of bodies at Dharmasthala making little headway, the temple town has become a centre for political tussle between Congress and the BJP. The BJP leaders will be in Dharmasthala on Sunday to protest the "smear campaign" against the temple.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar hit out at BJP, saying "They did not say a word when the complaint was lodged, but now they are trying to play politics over it."

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 5

ED conducts searches at properties of Tamil Nadu Minister, his MLA-son

The Hindu Bureau
DINDIGUL/CHENNAI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted searches at the residences and properties linked to Tamil Nadu Rural Development Minister I. Periyasamy, a senior leader of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), his MLA-son, and daughter, on Saturday.

The Minister and his family had come under the scanner of the Central agencies over charges of money laundering and amassing assets disproportionate to their known sources of income. The family has appealed against the case, which will come up for hearing in the Supreme Court on Monday.

The searches covered several areas in Chennai, Madurai, and Dindigul, including Mr. Periyasamy's home and associated companies. Amidst tight security from the Central Armed Police Forces, ED officers came to his official bungalow on Greenways Road around 7 a.m. The search lasted for 10 hours. Simultaneously, an ED team arrived at the MLAs' hostel at the Government Omandurar Estate and searched the room allotted to Mr. Periyasamy's son, I.P. Senthil Kumar, the Palani MLA.

ED officials coming out of I. Periyasamy's residence in Chennai after searches on Saturday. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

The Deputy Secretary of the Assembly filed a complaint with the police alleging that the ED officers trespassed into the hostel without due permission.

While the searches were under way at the houses of Mr. Periyasamy, his son, and daughter at Dindigul, some of the DMK workers who had assembled there shouted slogans against the Union government for "tarnishing the image of the DMK government".

Four of family among five dead in fire accident at plastic articles storehouse

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A sudden blaze engulfed an entire family of four as well as another person in a tragic incident on Saturday at Nagarathpete, just a day after the horrific gas leak blast at Adugodi in the city.

The police have identified the victims as Madan Kumar, 38, Sangeeta, 33, and their children Rithesh, 7, and Vihaan, 5, and Suresh Kumar, 26.

Sangeeta and her two sons were charred to death while they were asleep in their house on the third floor of Krishna complex.

Madan Kumar, who worked on the ground floor, had locked the house from outside, making it difficult for them to escape the fire, a senior police official said.

The three are suspected to have suffocated because of the heavy smoke and died before being charred as the fire engulfed the building.

The ground and first floors of the building were godowns where Madan Kumar used to store plastic and household articles, while the second floor had a few people living who escaped by running into the terrace and jumping onto the adjacent building. However Suresh Kumar, an employee staying on the second floor and who was asleep, died and his body was recovered by the rescue team.

Madan Kumar, Sangeetha, Nitesh and Vihan, who were among the five persons killed when a fire broke out in a plastic articles warehouse at Nagarathpet, in Bengaluru, on Saturday.

The building, constructed on a 36ftx57 ft area in a narrow lane, also had very narrow stairs, making it difficult for the fire and emergency services personnel to reach the third floor.

The heat and smoke caused due to the fire also proved to be a hinderance to rescue operations and it took almost 12 hours to douse the fire.

Madan Kumar was a native of Rajasthan had taken the building on rent. He ran a small manufacturing unit that made plastic kitchen items as well as mats and steel kitchen utensils. The police said an electric spark could have triggered the fire.

Case registered

The Halasuru Gate police have registered an FIR against the owners of the building, identified as Balakrishnayya Shetty and Sandeep Shetty, based on a complaint filed by Gopal Singh, brother of Madan Kumar.

Gopal Singh, in his complaint, said the premises, which Madan Kumar had taken on rent, had building bylaw violations and had no safety measures, which led to the death of his brother, his family and another person.

RELATED REPORT ON
» PAGE 3

Chinese Foreign Minister arriving for boundary talks

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India will host Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi next week, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Saturday, as New Delhi continues efforts to energise its relationship with Beijing amidst tension in its ties with Washington, another major trading partner.

Mr. Wang's visit is being viewed as a significant development in India's diplomatic calendar as it comes days after high penalty tariffs imposed on Indian goods by U.S. President Donald Trump.

In a sign of support for India, the Chinese Foreign Minister has opposed the U.S. tariffs system, saying it goes against the purpose of the United Nations and undermines the World Trade Organization.

Earlier this week, the MEA's spokesperson said that India and China have been in talks on the resumption of trade through "designated trade points",

Wang Yi

indicating progress in restoring relations with Beijing.

"At the invitation of National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval, Member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of China and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi will visit India on 18-19 August 2025. During his visit, he will hold the 24th round of the Special Representatives' (SR) Talks on the India-China boundary question with India's SR NSA Ajit Doval," the MEA said in its statement.

The Ministry added that Mr. Wang would hold bilateral talks with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar during his stay in Delhi.

The visit, which comes ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's expected visit to China for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation meeting on August 31 and September 1, is also indicative of the evolving geopolitics since May, when India launched Operation Sindoor against Pakistan, China's all-weather friend in India's neighbourhood.

CONTINUED ON
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A BG-BGE

Picturesque: A man walks against the backdrop of an almond orchard and snow-capped mountains well beyond, in Pulwama district.

Bucolic life: A flock of sheep in an almond orchard in Pulwama.

Fresh from the tree: A farmer shows harvested almonds at a village in Pulwama district, south of Srinagar. Almonds are an intrinsic part of the Kashmiri cuisine and trade, with their harvest being celebrated as a cultural festival.

Nutty delight

Kashmir records a bumper almond harvest this season, boosting farmer incomes; however, weather shifts, imports, and shrinking farmland remain key concerns

Imran Nissar
imran.nissar@thehindu.co.in

The almond harvest in Kashmir marks an important seasonal and cultural event, and this year's bumper crop has brought smiles to farmers' faces. Almond trees bloom in early spring, colouring the landscape in delicate shades of pink and white, which later turn green before the harvest in summer.

Kashmir's moderate climate, fertile soil, and abundant water sources provide ideal conditions for almond cultivation.

Kashmiri almonds, usually small in size but known for their sweet flavour and high oil content, are primarily grown in Anantnag and Pulwama in southern Kashmir, Budgam in central Kashmir, and Baramulla in the north. The varieties cultivated include both soft-shell and hard-shell almonds.

Harvesting almonds is a labour-intensive process. Farmers wait until the green outer hulls begin to split naturally, indicating ripeness. Then comes the "shakedown". The almonds are manually shaken from the trees using sticks and collected on cloth sheets spread beneath them. Once harvested, the nuts are sun-dried for several days before the shells are removed.

Women and children also participate in this traditional activity, turning it into a family business that is often celebrated at the community level.

Almonds are used extensively in traditional cuisine, especially in sweets and beverages such as *kehwa*. Locally grown almonds are preferred over imported varieties due to their superior taste and freshness.

Despite their importance, almond farmers in Kashmir face challenges such as erratic weather patterns, limited access to modern farming techniques, competition from lower-cost imports, shrinking farmlands, and a lack of policy support from authorities. To address these issues, the government is now planning to introduce high-density varieties of almonds across Kashmir.

The almond harvest remains a celebratory event in Kashmir's rural life, blending natural beauty with traditional farming practices.

Fit for harvest: A farmer scrutinises almonds on a tree for harvest in Pulwama. Once the almonds are ripe. they are shaken off the tree using sticks and collected on cloth sheets spread under.

Lokayukta police raided 219 officials since Jan. 2023, but 50% cases stuck in courts

Data says of the 218 cases registered, investigation was completed only in four cases, the High Court of Karnataka stayed proceedings in 67 cases and quashed FIRs in 34 cases

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

Lokayukta Police, who regained powers to probe cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 after the abolition of the Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) in September 2022, registered 218 disproportionate assets (DA) cases and raided 219 State government officials in Karnataka since 2023.

However, nearly half of these cases are stuck in legal challenges, according to data tabled by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in the Karnataka Legislative Council in response to two questions raised by MLCs C. T. Ravi and D.S. Arun.

Of the 218 DA cases registered by the Lokayukta police during this period, 101 cases (46.3%) have been stuck in legal hurdles while the High Court of Karnataka stayed proceedings in 67 cases and quashed FIRs in 34 cases.

A senior Lokayukta police official said that most of the 101 cases have either been stayed or quashed on 'technical grounds'.

"A Superintendent of Police rank officer needs to give an order under Section 17 of PC Act, 1988 to investigate the DA case against a particular officer. The court has, in many cases, found fault in an SP giving an order to lodge an FIR and investigate in a single order, and not sequentially. In some cases, they have also said that the SP has to record in detail in the order as to why a particular case is being assigned to a particular officer," a senior official said.

A senior official says that most of the 101 cases have either been stayed or quashed on 'technical grounds'. FILE PHOTO

The Lokayukta police have challenged all these orders in the Supreme Court. "We have already got favourable orders in a few cases, but many cases are yet to come up for hearing before the apex court. We are confident of clearing these legal challenges, but it will take time," the officer said.

Delay in probe

The data shows that of the 218 cases registered since 2023, the Lokayukta Police have completed investigation in only four cases and sought Sanction for Prosecution in them, of which the government has granted the same in two cases and the request is pending in the remaining two.

Explaining the delay in investigation, a senior Lokayukta Police official said that they inherited 1,300-plus cases from the ACB in 2022. Investigation into those cases, and the new cases were being done simultaneously, leading to delay.

Lokayukta police have submitted preliminary reports to the competent authorities concerned for further action in 150 cases. But of them, only 82 officials have been suspended.

"In many departments, even after raids and our reports, officials are not even suspended. This has been the case for many years," a senior official said.

No official from the Muzrai Department and the Municipal Administration Department has been raided during this period.

This is no indication of the prevalence or the lack of corruption in these respective departments, a senior Lokayukta Police official said.

A senior official says they inherited 1,300-plus cases from the ACB in 2022. Investigation into those cases, and the new cases were being done simultaneously, leading to delay

Raids in DA cases (Jan. 1, 2023 - July 31, 2025)

- **218 cases** against 219 State govt. officials
- **67 cases** HC stays proceedings
- **34 cases** HC quashes FIRs
- **4 cases** Sanction for Prosecution sought (Permission given in 2 cases and 2 others pending before the govt.)
- **113 cases** under investigation
- **150 cases** Reports submitted for further action to competent authorities concerned
- **82** officials suspended

Departments with most number of raids	
Urban Development Department	39
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj	36
Revenue Department	20
Energy Department	17
Public Works Department	12
Department of Commerce and Industries	12

Districts with most number of raids	
Bengaluru -	45
Belagavi -	11
Tumakuru -	10
Mysuru -	10
Kalaburagi -	10

BMIC project: KPRS to hold protest on August 21 at Freedom Park

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Prantha Raitha Sangha (KPRS), State committee, Bengaluru, has announced a protest on August 21 at Freedom Park in Gandhinagar, demanding that the State government take immediate action to safeguard farmers' rights and address long-standing grievances linked to the Bengaluru-Mysuru Infrastructure Corridor (BMIC) project promoted by Nandi Infrastructure Corridor Enterprises (NICE).

The key demands of KPRS include a complete ban on the NICE from undertaking any work in Karnataka, immediate cancellation of the BMIC project, among others.

The KPRS has raised concerns over the recent move by the State government to appoint an advisory committee in partnership with NICE. Farmers' representatives argue that this decision threatens to revive the BMIC project, an initiative long mired in allegations of irregular land acquisition and lack of transparency.

Last year, Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar proposed the idea of building another highway to connect Bengaluru and Mysuru by reviving the BMIC promoted by NICE that had run into a controversy over allegations of acquiring excess land.

Pious followers

In the divine: Devotees at Sri Venugopalakrishna Swamy temple on the occasion of Krishna Janmashtami, at Malleswaram in Bengaluru on Saturday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Zonal Commissioners to oversee waste management in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a move to enhance accountability in waste management in Bengaluru, the government of Karnataka has assigned zonal commissioners additional responsibilities, including monitoring waste collection and ensuring overall cleanliness within their respective zones.

Previously, the responsibility for waste management lay with Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) while zonal commissioners had limited authority.

Under the new arrangement, although the BSWML will continue to handle waste collection and transportation, the entire process will be overseen by the zonal commissioners. Once new municipal corporations are formed, these powers will be transferred to them.

A BSWML source clarified that Deputy General Managers (DGMs) and Assistant General Managers (AGMs) will continue to manage day-to-day operations at BSWML, but their work will now come under the supervision of zonal commissioners.

BSWML will remain involved in decision-making processes.

A senior BBMP official told *The Hindu* that this move follows a decision to strengthen waste management by involving more stakeholders.

According to the new order, zonal commissioners will supervise black spots, waste collection, and fine collection, while BSWML will be responsible for operations. Processing of collected waste will continue to be solely managed by BSWML.

Following a recent meeting, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar hinted at major changes in the city's waste management system, announcing that he had directed BBMP officials to intensify supervision of waste disposal and ensure fines are collected from those dumping garbage in public spaces.

In the Swachh Survekshan 2025 report, released about in July, Bengaluru fared poorly. Weeks later, the government of Karnataka issued transfer orders for the CEO and Chief Engineer of BSWML.

Transport Minister orders clean-up of city bus stations

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Transport and Muzrai Minister Ramalinga Reddy has directed the Managing Directors of Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC), Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), and North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) to ensure improved cleanliness at all bus stations under their jurisdiction.

Ramalinga Reddy

The directive follows complaints, including the poor condition of a men's toilet near the ticket counter at the Satellite Bus Stop on Bengaluru-Mysuru Road, which reportedly caused discomfort to women passengers.

Emphasising that public service bodies must act proactively, the Minister warned that repeated complaints regarding unhygienic facilities and overcharging for toilet use will not be tolerated. Private agencies managing toilets at bus stations will face contract termination if they fail to maintain cleanliness standards, he said.

Massive cleanliness drive by BBMP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) on Friday launched a large-scale cleanliness and encroachment clearance drive across six zones of the city.

The campaign, under the directions of BBMP Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao, was carried out in coordination with the Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited aiming to improve hygiene and restore pedestrian space across major stretches. Zonal and Joint Commissioners, along with Chief Engineers, supervised the operations that deployed heavy vehicles, tractors, and cleaning personnel.

In the East Zone, damaged slabs were replaced, garbage cleared, and obstructing tree branches removed along a 4.4 km stretch from Anepalya Junction to Residency Road. Footpath encroachments were also cleared in Kammanahalli Main Road and Subbaiyanapalya.

In the West Zone, the BBMP undertook cleaning operations in Industrial Estate, Nandini Layout, and Jagajeevanram Nagar of Rajajinagar and Malleswaram divisions and removed obstructions on several roads.

The South Zone saw pushcarts and name boards removed from footpaths in Deepanjali Nagar and near Kempambudhi Lake, while in the Yelahanka Zone, cleanup drives were carried out along Thanisandra Main Road, Ananthapura Main Road, and Jakkur Layout, alongside checks on plastic use and COPTA violations.

At Kengeri Bus Stand in Rajarajeshwari Nagar, mass cleaning was carried out, and saplings were planted near Kengeri Lake. In Bommanahalli, roadside waste was cleared in Mico Layout, Begur.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client SMT. SWETH K.R., W/o. Sri. Shashidhar M. V. has intending to purchase of the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration with its ownerSri. Anthonappa Bortholom, S/o. Sri. Anthonappa, Residing at No. 28/1, 2nd Cross, Bilekahalli Layout, Bannergatta road, Bangalore-560076

If any persons, banks, financial institutions etc., having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client/s will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE

Residential converted Site No. 47 BBMP E-Khata bearing property No. 117/84/2B/47, PID No. 2053231379, formed Residential converted land bearing Sy. No. 84/2B (vide converse order No. ALN:SR(S)40/2007-08, dated 17-12-2008 and ALN:SR(S)41/2007-08, dated 26-11-2008) Situated at Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk Measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to south 30 Feet in total measuring 1200 Sq. Ft. and bounded on:

East by : Road, West by : Site No.56, North by : Site No.46, South by : Site No.48.

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY,
ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR,
Advocates, # 1010, 2nd Floor, 7th 'A' Main Road, 1st Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560034, Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832

Bangalore, Date : 16.08.2025

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

FIRST CORRIGENDUM

E-Tender Notice No.: 2025-27-NAC ICF toilet upgrad Date :14.08.2025 **1. E-Tender Notice No.:** 2025-27-NAC ICF toilet upgrad, dated 05.08.2025 **2. Date of Opening of Tender:** Tender opening date extended from 29.08.2025 after 15:00 hrs. to 03.09.2025 after 15:00 hrs. **3. NIT Schedule:** 1. Description of Schedule-A Item-15 updated 2. In tender document list Tender Document and irrelevant Drawing is deleted and As per scope of work Updated tender Document and relevant drawing added. **4. Website particular where complete details of E-tender can be seen and participated:** www.ireps.gov.in

1024-PM/25

Follow us on : /NWRailways /NWRailways_

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that, my client, Mr.Basavakumar Biradar S/o. Shankareppa, Aged about 55 years, residing at No.85, 1st Main, 5th cross, Vinayakanagar, Bagalur Cross, IAF Post, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560063, has LOST THE ORIGINAL PAGE NO.9 & 10 in SALE DEED DATED 18.01.2006, REGISTERED AS DOCUMENT NO.YAN-1-10493/2005-06 OF BOOK-1, STORED IN CD NO.YAND160, IN THE OFFICE OF THE SENIOR SUB-REGISTRAR, YELAHANKA, BANGALORE, LOST AT NEAR YELAHANKA TALUKA OFFICE ON 25.07.2024, BETWEEN 10:00AM TO 12:00PM. A COMPLAINT IS LODGED IN ONLINE DATED 16.08.2025 VIDE LOST REPORT BEARING NO.1754263/2025, Finders may return the same to the near Police Station or contact at the below address.

if any persons, firm, company, Financial institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document, they may contact the below mentioned address in writing within 15 days from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

BHASKAR.M,
ADVOCATES & LEGAL CONSULTANTS,
Office: #782/11, Ground Floor, 17th 'B' main Road 60th Cross, Near Lakshman Rao Skin Clinic, 5th Block, Bhasyam Circle, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010 Land line: 080-48520073

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD

Zonal Office, 4th Floor, East Wing
Raheja Towers, No. 26, 27,
M G Road, BANGALORE - 560 001
PH: 080-22958899

Notice Inviting Offers

Indian Bank, Zonal Office, Bengaluru invites sealed offers in 2 bid system (Technical & Financial Bid) from owners of office premises willing to offer premises on lease basis, measuring about 1100 to 1200 sq. ft. Carpet Area for Branch premises with ATM facility preferably in Ground Floor with parking facility for a lease period of 15 years in the following centre.

CHICKPET

For eligibility criteria, application form, and other details, please refer to website https://www.indianbank.in/tender

Last date: 01.09.2025 Sd/- ZONAL MANAGER

बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया Bank of India BOI Relationship beyond Banking

BANK OF INDIA - JAYANAGAR BRANCH
623, 10th 'A' Main, Near Hot Chips, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore - 560 011. Phone : 080 22959483 / 84 / 86, Fax : 080 22959485 / 22440262 E-mail: jayanagar.bengaluru@bankofindia.co.in

[Rule - 8 (1)]
POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the **Authorised Officer of Bank of India,** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under **Section 13 (12), read with rule 3** of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated **15-05-2025 & Paper Notification Dated 01-06-2025** calling upon the borrower **Mr. Suresh .R,** Residing at No. 55, 1st Floor, 11th Main, Geetha Colony, Jayanagar, 4th Block, Bangalore - 560011 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 49,53,930.94 (Rupees Forty Nine Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Nine Hunded Thirty and Ninety Four)** for **Home Loan (840575110000370)** with **60 (Sixty) Days** from the date of receipt of this said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under **sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Act read with rule 8** of the **Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002** on this the **12th day of August, 2025.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Bank of India** for an amount of **Rs. 49,53,930.94 (Rupees Forty Nine Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty and Paise Ninety Four)** and Interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable Property

All that part and parcel of the Property bearing Site No. 190, New BBMP Khatha No. 190/1362/190, formed by the Bangalore Development Authority, situated at 2nd Block, Jnanabharathi Layout (Valegerahalli), Kengeri, Bangalore - 560060 within the limits of BBMP Ward No. 130, Ullal, Bangalore. Measuring East to West : 9.14 Mtrs and North to South : 6.10 Mtrs, Totally Measuring 55.75 Sq. Mtrs and bounded on : **East By :** Road, **West By :** Site No. 179, **North By :** Site No 191, **South :** Site No 189.

Date : 12.08.2025 Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place : Bangalore Bank of India

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Publication of Tender Notice No. 11-SNT-MYS-2025 Dated : 07-08-2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

SL	Name of the work	Approx. Value
1	Shifting of S & T Cable	Rs. 45,46,052.22
	In connection with the work of Construction of 6 lane with service road RUB No. 745A @ Km 133/100-200, RUB No. 293A @ Km 4/400-500, RUB No. 3 @ Km 0.780, RUB 765B @ Km 7/500-600 of NH 275K.	
2	Shifting of Telecom cables & system in connection with "Provision of CCTV Camera for lift at Ashoka Puram and Provision of lift on existing FOB at Krishnarajanagar and Haveri Station.	Rs. 21,20,010.16
3	Enhancement of Dataloggers speed by providing additional front end processors (FEP), replacement of old version dataloggers with new version of Dataloggers & Proving of left out digital inputs of vital relays and analog voltages in datalogger and thereby improving the efficiency of datalogger over Mysuru Division.	Rs. 69,20,887.18

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 01-09-2025

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer
PUB/373/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26 Mysuru

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Classifieds

LIFE MADE SIMPLE — THE HINDU

GENERAL

FOR SALE

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHENNAI PORT AUTHORITY
No.1 Rajaji Salai, Chennai-1
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR EMPANELMENT OF ADVOCATE(S) / LAW FIRM(S) FOR HANDLING CASES BEFORE THE HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF MADRAS AND OTHER COURTS / LEGAL FORUMS IN TAMIL NADU AND FOR ARBITRATIONS

Chennai Port Authority, under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, GoI, invites applications from the eligible Advocate(s) / Law Firm(s) for Empanelment in Chennai Port Authority as Legal Adviser(s) for handling Court Cases and Arbitration.

Kindly visit website viz., **www.chennaiport.gov.in** for details regarding eligibility criteria, tenure, terms and conditions and fee structure, etc.,

Last date for receipt of applications is 16.09.2025

Chennai Secretary

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EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SINDHU Tharedahalli Shanmukaiah, d/o: Suresha Babu Tharedahalli Shanmukaiah, r/o:4622, 4th Main, 3rd Cross, S S Layout B Block, Davanagere, Kar 577004, Have Changed My Name As Sindhu Tharedahalli Suresh Babu Vide Afdvt Dtd on 25/07/2025

Best of the lot: Farmers harvest almonds using long sticks at a village in Pulwama district.

Hidden goodness: A woman peels freshly picked almond during the harvesting season at a village in Pulwama district.

Spring's bounty: A farmer at an orchard collects harvested almonds in one place. The collection is then taken for drying until the shells give up and can be easily removed.

Family trade: A woman dries harvested almonds. Harvesting almonds is a labour-intensive process. Women and children too participate in this traditional harvest activity, turning it into a family business.

Community festival: Once harvested, the nuts are sun-dried for several days before the shells are removed. The harvest of almonds is often celebrated at the community level in Kashmir.

Nagarathpete fire accident: Narrow lanes made rescue operations a Herculean task

The fire that broke out at the unit containing plastic and packing material spread rapidly, engulfing the entire building

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The air was filled with smoke, and residents woke up startled. "I heard a blast in the morning and thought it was a transformer short circuit," said Nirmal Raj, a shopkeeper who lives in the adjacent lane of the building that caught fire, killing five persons in Nagarathpete in the early hours of Saturday.

The Krishna Complex was ablaze by 2.30 a.m. "Fire extinguishers and ambulances arrived within an hour of the incident, but the narrow lanes posed a problem," said Basavaraj, a constable deployed at the site in the morning.

The residents helped steer the water pipes in the congested area, evacuated the roadside carts, and made way for the extinguishers to contain the fire.

"The first body recovered was identified as Madan Kumar," said a police officer at the site. Madan Kumar was trapped in the godown below. Suresh Kumar, residing on the second floor and working for a businessman, too lost his life.

The 45-year-old godown owner of the adjacent building, Pukhraj, who knew the deceased family, said, "I got a call at 3 a.m., and that's when I rushed to the building." He saw flames racing through the structure while a few people were escaping through the terrace.

Police and fire services personnel carrying out rescue operations at Nagarathpete in Bengaluru on Saturday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Smoke billows out of the building where a fire broke out at Nagarathpete on Saturday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Home Minister G. Parameshwara visiting the site at Nagarathpete on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Watched helplessly

Residents in the adjacent building were watching the fire from their terrace helplessly as the rescue teams struggled to contain the fire. "We knew that there was a family stuck inside and we could not reach to their help," a man from the neighbourhood rued.

The search to retrieve the bodies started at 3.30 a.m, and the first two people taken out were Madan Kumar and Suresh Kumar. The remaining bodies, including that of Sangeeta, Madan's wife, and their two children, were identified by the personnel later.

A fire department official said they received the call around 3.14 a.m. "Eight vehicles were deployed along with 55 firefighters and 21 officers. As the fire broke out at the unit containing plastic and packing material, the fire spread rapidly, covering the entire building," the official added.

The fire officials used the adjacent building to reach the top, and as the fire tenders could not reach close enough to the spot, the rescue team had to use additional hose pipes to pump the water to douse the fire.

It was a Herculean task to bring the fire under control in the narrowly built structure, with the heat and smoke hindering the rescue operations for several hours, he added.

Home Minister's visit

Home Minister G. Parameshwara, who visited the spot, said there are thousands of residential buildings on the congested and narrow by-lanes, and many of them are converted into shop-cum-residential premises. He further said that the BBMP officials are verifying the trade license and possible building violations.

Meanwhile, the police are on the lookout for the building owners who are on the run. A case has been registered against them.

(With inputs from Priyanka Vaadulasha)

Rape case against son of Bidar MLA transferred to Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The rape case against Prateek Chauhan, son of Aurad BJP MLA Prabhu Chauhan, registered in Bidar women's police station in July this year was transferred to the Upparpet police station on Saturday.

The victim from Maharashtra had alleged that she was engaged to Prateek and was raped multiple times at a hotel in Bengaluru on the pretext of marriage.

"Since the woman has alleged that the first sexual assault occurred in Bengaluru, a case has been taken up here on transfer from Bidar," the police said.

The victim has alleged that she was engaged to Prateek and was raped multiple times at a hotel in Bengaluru on the pretext of marriage

The victim filed a complaint after the accused allegedly refused to marry and threatened the victim and her family when they visited his residence to finalise the wedding date.

Case registered after sports event management firm's website is hacked

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The cybercrime police on Thursday registered an FIR against an unknown person for hacking into the website of a city-based sports event management company for ransom.

Based on the complaint, the police charged the accused under various sections of the IT Act.

According to the complaint, the company received three emails from a person identified as Alex Varma claiming that the company website had been hacked, and he had accessed all the personal and confidential information of the company and threatened to make it public with concocted and fabricated details .

The accused threatened to make the website access public and share the access details on a public platform, demanding ransom.

The company requested the police to prevent the misuse of data theft and take legal action. The cybercrime police are trying to track down the accused based on the IP address.

Three killed after speeding bus rams parked lorry on NH

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three persons, including a truck driver, were killed when a speeding KSRTC bus crashed into the parked lorry on the outskirts of the city on National Highway 48 in the early hours of Saturday.

The deceased have been identified as Seenappa, 50, the lorry driver, and his assistants, Nazeer Ahmed, 36, and Anand, 42. According to the police, the lorry laden with livestock was heading to Bengaluru from Mudhol. While the truck reached Nelamangala, the driver noticed a flat tyre and parked the vehicle on the roadside to change it.

The KSRTC bus, heading in the same direction, failed to notice the parked lorry and crashed into it. Due to the impact, the trio who were busy changing the tyre were crushed to death. A few passengers and the driver of the bus sustained minor injuries, police said. The Nelamangala traffic policeshifted the injured to the hospital.

A case of rash and negligent driving has been registered against the bus driver.

LPG firm booked after boy's death in cylinder blast

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru police have booked an LPG cylinder company in connection with the suspected cylinder blast in southeast Bengaluru's Adugodi on Friday, which claimed the life of a 10-year-old boy and left nine others injured.

In the FIR, the Adugodi police have invoked BNS Sections 106 and 125, which pertain to causing death by negligence and acts endangering personal safety, respectively. A police officer confirmed to *The Hindu* that the FIR was registered following a complaint by the father of Mubarak, the boy who died in the incident.

The explosion occurred in the house of Kasturiamma around 8.10 a.m., and its impact caused the walls to collapse and damaged the roofs of several neighbouring houses in the compact colony in Chinnaiahnapalya.

"Although the father of the deceased did not name either Kasturiamma or anyone else in his complaint, the latter noted in her statement that she had switched off the cylinder before going to bed the previous night," the officer said, explaining the decision to file the case against the gas company.

According to the officer, Kasturiamma has been treated as a witness, while the formal complaint has been lodged by Mubarak's father.

Kasturiamma recorded her statement while recovering in the hospital.

"The Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) and Scene of Crime Officers (SOCO) collected samples from the site on Saturday. The exact source of the spark that triggered the blast is still unknown, and investigations are underway along those lines," the officer added.

Police said they need to establish the source of the leak. If the FSL report rules out defects in the cylinder or regulator and points to external negligence, the suspect will be changed accordingly, and the case will proceed on that basis.

The police officer overseeing the case said about 90% of the debris was cleared by Saturday evening by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

However, as the lanes are narrow and debris must be moved out of a congested locality, the process is taking longer than usual.

APPOINTMENTS

CHANAKYA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, PATNA
(University established by Act No. XXIV of 2006)
Nyaya Nagar, Mithapur, Patna- 800001 (Bihar)
Telephone No.: 91-612-2352300, Email ID : recruitment@cnlu.ac.in
Advertisement No. 25/2025-26(Appt.) Date: 16.08.2025

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The Chanakya National Law University, Patna, a premier institution of legal education invites applications for the following teaching and non- teaching posts: **(1)** Professor, **(2)** Associate Professor, **(3)** Assistant Professor, **(4)** Registrar, **(5)** Dy. Registrar, **(6)** Assistant Registrar, **(7)** Accounts Officer (Jr.), **(8)** Data Entry Operator and **(9)** Cook cum attendant. There is no last date and applications will be accepted throughout the year. Applications will be processed periodically. The last date of submission of duly filled-in application form for the first round of selections is **30th August, 2025.**
For further details please visit our University website: **www.cnlu.ac.in**
By the order of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, CNLU. Sd/- Registrar

Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, AUG. 17	
RISE 06:08	SET 18:39
RISE 00:07	SET 13:30
MONDAY, AUG. 18	
RISE 06:08	SET 18:39
RISE 01:04	SET 14:33
TUESDAY, AUG. 19	
RISE 06:08	SET 18:38
RISE 02:05	SET 15:35

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	29	25
Mysuru	28	20
Bengaluru	26	20

Bengaluru Today
27°C The weather will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Spell of light rain and thundershower will occur.

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THE HINDU
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Govindaraj denies role in RCB celebrations

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former Political Secretary to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah K. Govindaraj has claimed that he had no role in organising the Royal Challengers Bengaluru celebrations in Bengaluru on June 4.

"The Chief Minister's Office is a structured team with defined procedures and no single Political Secretary can direct such a programme without the CM or Chief Secretary's knowledge," he said in a statement.

The Hindu had reported that he was questioned by the CID for over five hours on Wednesday regarding the case, which Mr. Govindaraj has denied, and said that he was out of town on that day.

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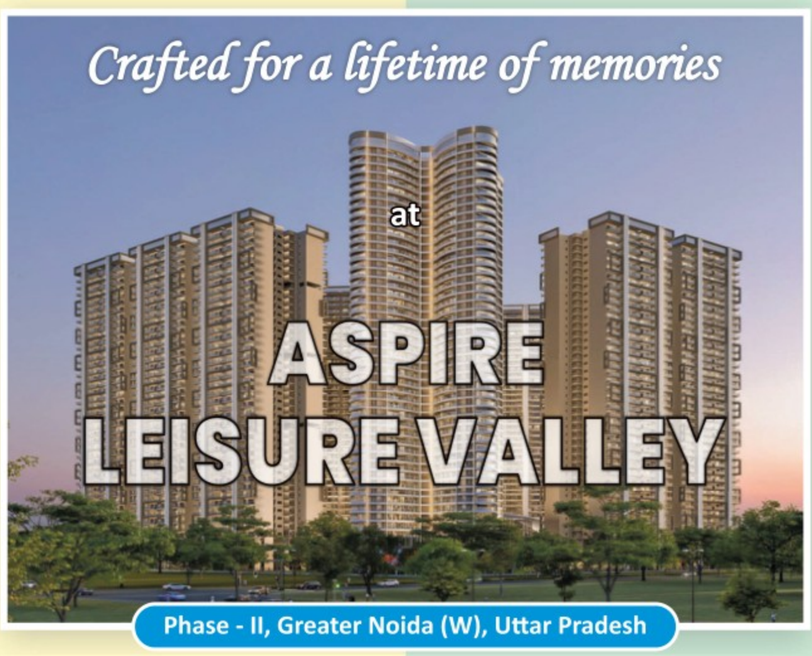
e-Auction will be held on : 19.08.2025
EMD Fee: ₹67.67 Crore
Last Date of Submission of EMD 18.08.2025
Spacious 3BHK, 4BHK apartments with modern amenities



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e-Auction will be held on : 22.08.2025
Last Date of Submission of EMD 21.08.2025
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Classifieds

thehinduads.com

LIFE MADE SIMPLE

THE HINDU

Matrimonial

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

INDEX OF MATRIMONIAL

BRIDEGROOMS WANTED
BRIDES WANTED
BRIDES & GROOMS WANTED
MARRIAGE BUREAUS
WEDDING ARRANGEMENTS

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WANTED BENGALI groom for WB Mahishya IT professional (31yr/ 160cm) working in Bangalore.28.3 LPA 9429199888

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KERALITE, GRADUATE Girl, Rich, 25 Years, Raised in UK, Tall, Slim, Pretty & Modern Seeks Compatible Remarriage Proposals.Call: +971504539163

DIVORCEE

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CSI CHRISTIAN / Pentecost BC/MBC Upper middle class B.Com 32 yrs divorcee, no sibling.Well settled in Chennai with own houses seeks Chennai based groom. 74017 73856

DOCTOR

COIMBATORE BASED Doctor Girl, Pursuing M.S., Kettai / Viruchigam, 25/160, Gavara Naidu (Sub Sects No Bar) Upper Middle Class seeking around Coimbatore based PG Doctor Groom (or) Any Professionals. Contact: 99656 66888

GROOM WANTED SC(AD) 27yrs MBBS, MD, Well Educated Family background in Chennai Need doctors Ct:6385293227

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HINDU, 25Y, MBBS, MS Pursuing in Chennai Looking For Suitable Groom, CT: 9840301804/ 9677199925. CNB

FAIR BEAUTIFUL Girl 26/160, MBBS doctor/ PLAB2 / GMC UK registered Hindu/ Kerala Viswakarma, residence Delhi NCR pursuing for career abroad. Father retired defence officer, mother doctor. Alliance from professionally qualified Hindu boys, caste no bar, preferably doctor, settled in UK/ NRI. Mob 9667554920

HINDU MUDHALIYAR, 27/152cm, fair, slim pursuing MD Radiology, seeks Groom preferably doctors. Contact : 9445399103

35 YRS old Doctor MD Anesthesiology 165 slim fair, pretty and cultured . Father Cardiac surgeon Chennai, Nair Tharavad palghat and Thrissur area. Looking for doctor grooms and engineers.9840050381/ 9840985383

DOCTOR BRIDE GROOM WANTED

Tamil, Hindu, Udayar, Kulalar, Reputed, Well Educated, Well Settled, Chennai based Family Seeks Doctor Groom for their Daughter Age 27, MBBS, DNB (OG)

Ct : 95001 22768

Email : mandral2025@gmail.com

SC (AD) MDS (Pedo) 31yrs seeks suitable groom from medical graduates / professionals preferably Thanjavur, Trichy , Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam districts. Ph: 9840149288

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ENGLISH

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MARATHI

V. Bhavna Harithsa, 25, Anusham, Harithsa Gothram, Madhwa Desistha, Thanjavur Marathi speaking,BE comp science, working Bangalore,25 LPA, Bangalore based working Marathi speaking Groom preferred Contact +91 7868815488, 7825847444

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TAMIL

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✔ **MUSLIM GIRL 38 yrs, Engineer, look for qualified, employed, never married Tamil Muslim Groom. 9444235779**

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CHIRSTIAN, PENTECOST, Age 29, BE, Private, USD 1Lakh. CT 8138900523

CHRISTIAN, PENTECOST, Age 30, M Pharm, MNC, 30 Lakhs. CT 8138900547

CSI VELLALA, M.Sc., M Phil., 89 July, Asst.Prof. Pondy, Seeks Groom FC/BC, below 39 yrs. Ct: 98946-77892

MUSLIM MBBS, studying MD 27/163 Chennai seeks suitable groom WhatsApp 9444721694

CHRISTIAN, CATHOLIC, Age 30, B.E, MS, Manager at MNC Bangalore, Income 30 Lakhs. Contact 8137003548.

CHRISTIAN, CSI, Age 26, B.E Completed, Upper middle class family. Contact 8137003516.

CHRISTIAN, DOCTOR, 38 Years Unmarried, Well Settled Family. Seeks Unmarried Doctor Groom. Ct: 75502 86805

TAMIL

HINDU, NADAR, Age 28, Divorced, MS, Doctor, 12 Lakhs. CT 8138900553

HINDU, PILLAI, Age 28, MBBS, Private, 5 Lakhs. CT 8138901294

HINDU, GOUNDER, Age 30, BE, Banking, 12 Lakhs. CT 8138901189

DKV/SC MAY 1994/ 167cm Fair BE Parents Hindu / CSI, Seeks Groom Dr./Er. Govt Employee. 8056143638

TAMIL MUSLIM, 31yrs/158cm, MCA., AVP (IT) in financial Firm, earning 27LPA seeks never married, well-educated Tamil speaking groom from a good family, with strong career vision and comparable professional standing. Ct: 9080501299.

GROOM WANTED Hindu Nadar 26yrs B.Tech, MS(US) Working in US, Elite business family 9380791999/ 9841329471

GIRL 30/5.4, Good Looking, Business 1L Pm, Seeks Well Settled Groom Aged 40/5.9, Cast No Bar. 73056 03908

GROOM WANTED Hindu Nadar, 27yrs, MBBS, working in Singapore, Well Educated Family. 9841329471/ 9380791999

SC (AD), 29yrs, MBBS, MS, Well Educated Family background in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Groom Ct: 6385293227

MUDALIAR 33/ 162 BE Technical Lead–IT Chennai seeks well educated IT/ Engg Professional Metro/Abroad Mudaliar/Pillai 33–36yrs Wapp 6381123476

CNB, 28YRS, B.Tech, Divorce, Very Elite business family in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Groom Ct: 6385293227

HINDU/TAMIL / Padmasaliyar / Mirugashirisham /BE / 25 /Bank seeks qualified same sect groom. 94432 89088.

SOZHIYAVELLALAR PILLAI Age 30 BE (CSE) Working in Pvt Sector Chennai, Seeks Groom Preferable from Pillai/Mudaliar Age 30–33, BE Working in IT Field, Employed in Chennai / India / Abroad. Ct Gowdhaman 9342276143

HINDU TAMIL Girl Aged 27, 172 cm Tall, US citizen, Computer Science Graduate, Software Engineer working in New York City is seeking a Groom who is a US Citizen, raised in the US, & currently living in the US. It is important to her that her future partner shares similar values and comes from a good family. Phone +1 862–294–0439, dagop@navananda.com

TAMIL HINDU Nadar, B.Tech (CS) working in Cisco Bangalore,Rs 27 LPA 30/160cm, Moolam / Dhanush seeks groom with similar educational and career background. Ct: 91768 00819

HINDU SC 35/172 B.Tech Govt Bank Manager, B'lore 10L/pa Divorcee, unconsumated. Christians ok. 8939574245

HINDU, CHETTIYAR, Age 48, Divorced, M.A, Police at Madurai, Income 15 Lakhs. Ct 8138900547

HINDU NADAR 27yrs, B.Arch, MS (US) , Elite business family, Seeks Suitable Groom Ct:9380791999/ 9841329471

HINDU SC AD-36years., Bcom, MBA. Swathy, Thulam. Seeks Govt/Bank/Pvt Employed Groom From Good Family. Contact.& WhatsApp-9488805299

HINDU NADAR Girl 25 LLM High Court Advocate seeks suitable Groom same Community ct 9442076070 /6374369211

MUDALIYAR 23/157 BA (Eco) MNC, Non–Veg seeks South Indian well settled professional /business bridegroom from affluent family. Ct:9444676169

HINDU VK Kshatriya Naicker Nov 1991/157cm Fair CA In Practice Seeks Well Educated Settled Chennai Based Groom 9500100848, 9840200907 CNB

CHETTIAR (CNB): 24/Fair & Beautiful, MS (UK), Doing Business, Chennai, Elite Family, (500cr) Seeks groom Business/ Industrialist–9962530015

MUDALIAR: 28/ V. Fair, MBA, Running Own School, Chennai, well settled Family, Seeks groom Eng/ Business – 8925019776

MUDALIAR 28/165 Fair Beautiful, MBBS, MS–OG, SIIMS 2000000 PA, Well Settled, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

TAMIL

HINDU MUDALIAR, Age 30, 167cm Fair & Charming Working in MNC, Seeks Working Boy from Mudaliar / Pillai / Soliya Vellalar Caste.Ct 9444149262

Arcot Mudaliar
Mirugasirisham 31/167
BE, MS (Comp. Science)
working in Bangalore
seeks alliance from
Mudaliar/ Pillai/ any Sub Caste,
Post Graduate grooms based at
Chennai/ Bangalore/ Hyderabad,
from Upper Middle Class families
Mob: 98403-64704

HINDU, SC, Age 33, Divorced, BE, MNC, AED 20 Lakhs. CT 7356483111

MUDALIAR GIRL 28/165cm B.Com, MBA, Fair looking Upper Middle Class Mirugasirisam. seeks suitable groom from Respectable family. 9444547499

HINDU REDDY Fair,Slim PG Specialist Doctor 34/165cms in Private Practice from Elite Family.Seeks Never Married Suitable Groom CNB:8925640111

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ELITE BRIDES WANTED

BRAHMIN, IYER, 28, 170 cms, Businessman, Masters. Lives in UAE. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from Iyer/ Iyengar. Contact: 6366448344

KAMMA NAIDU, 27, 183 cms, Business, MS Engg, Lives in Guntur. Father is into Business. Looking for like-minded and well educated match from any community. Contact :6366448344

NADAR, 28, 175 cms, MBBS, Doctor. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Working Professional. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact:6366448343

VELLALAR CHRISTIAN, 28, 180 cms, BE Civil, Businessman in Coimbatore. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

ELITE GROOMS WANTED

SENGUNTHA MUDALIYAR, 26, 157 cms, MBA, Entrepreneur. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

24 MANAI TELUGU CHETTIAR, 29, 163 cms, ME. Lives in Coimbatore. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match. Contact: 6366448343

UDAYAR, 24, 170 cms, Doctor, MD General. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from equivalent community. Contact: 6366448344

REDDY, 22, 165 cms, Entrepreneur, Masters. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from Reddy community. Contact: 6366448344

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TAMIL

CNB Groom required for SC/Divorsee/ Bangalore/ Tamil/ 28yrs/ 168 cm /BE/ SWE Contact: 9491130211

BRIDE GROOM WANTED

TAMIL MUSLIM, AGE: 27 years, Completed MBBS & Pursuing Post Graduates (OG) 2nd year in Govt. College. (Living in Chennai)

Bride Looking For Tamil Muslim Groom, Age: 27 - 30 years, Preferably Should have Completed MBBS & Pursuing Post Graduation Degree / Completed.

"From an Affluent Family"

(within Tamilnadu Preferred)

98410 91997

38 YEAR Old Naidu Engineering Post Graduate Girl Working In London needs a suitable Bridegroom from Naidu Or Any Caste. Rajan.7358787538

GROOM (USA) wanted, Bride: Hindu Nadar 26yrs B.Tech, MS(US), Working in US, Elite Business Family. Ph: 96599 91119 / 98423 44133

Tamil Vanniyar Girl, Mumbai, Dob 19/09/93, MNC, Sal: 1 LPM, Rich, Caste No Bar, Contact: 8667248379.

TELUGU

Wanted
GROOM (Tamil/Telugu)
Distinguished Alliance Invited
TAMIL / TELUGU COMMUNITY
We cordially invite proposals for our "ONLY DAUGHTER", aged 23 years, Height 155 cm, Graceful and Accomplished. She is professionally employed in Washington State, USA, and holds Permanent Residency.
We seek a well-placed Tamil / Telugu groom settled in the USA, hailing from a respected, cultured, and upper-middleclass family.
Whatsapp
+1 650 933 7006
anjanbcb@gmail.com

BRIDES WANTED

COMPUTER / INFO.TECH

IT SENIOR Director, Chennai MNC, Hindu, SC, AD, 39, BE, Veg, Unmarried.Tamil origin, Fluent in Hindi & English.Seeking Hindu, Unmarried, Veg only Bride.Caste No Bar. Mob:7871691025

COSMOPOLITAN

SUITABLE BRIDE from Tamil/Malayalam BC or FC CNB any degree job status no bar for intercaste groom F–Kongu Vellalar, M–Nair 40/180 Sadhayam Clean Habits Well settled B.Tech MNC Projects Asst Manager–25LPACoimbatore. CT:99524 85996, 88076 59287

WANTED A educated and professionally qualified bride with strong Protestant Christian upbringing and values for our son NZ citizen 33/180 Post Graduate Engineer MNC in Melbourne, Australia. Region/ Language/Caste/Denomination No bar. Email sundaresanpaul@gmail.com or Call +64 21 251 5040

DIVORCEE

SMART, SORTED 34, 178cm, thoughtful, Ivy Master's, US–based Strategy Consultant. Seeks compatible bride. Caste no bar. Call/WA 9345634365.

DOCTOR

WANTED A Christian Protestant Doctor bride for a Doctor groom. Age 29, 165 Cms., Doing PG.Ct: 9344679516

HINDU NADAR, 27 Fair, MBBS, MD Studied. Seeks Bride Chennai, Bangalore Any District Okay : 73 58 63 83 63

MS Completed Bridegroom, 97 born, BC, seeks MD OG /MD Radiology / Super Speciality Bride/ IAS or affluent Girl, cast no bar Contact: 9443331986

HINDI

1985/175CM, 50 Lakhs PA, Never Married, Bangalore. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

MALAYALAM

LOOKING MALAYALI Pentecostal Girl – (No Jewel) for Tamil Christian Groom (31yr/ 165ht/ BE/ 16LPA), well settled in Madurai. Ct– 8310765588.

TELUGU

KAMMA NAIDU 32/174 well settled family. seeks groom Chennai Kamma/ Balija, business/ salaried good family background. 9444885060/ 9003190983

26/163 cm / MBBS PG Girl Seeks IAS, Dr. Group1, (Caste No Bar: Kamma, Kapu, Reddy) 100 cr Hyderabad Boy Phone: 7660803720, 6305502298.

KAMMAVAR NAIDU
Homely Looking Girl Aged 25 Epulla Kotharam, BE., MBA, 164 CM Height, seeks PG Business Professional well settled Bridegroom below 30 years Decent Family prefers to stay in Chennai.
Ravindran
+91 91767 27247

MALAYALAM

RC BOY, 38/180, SR Section Engineer, Railway, Ernakulam. Ph: 9495269815.

KERALITE RAWTHER Twins 32/B.Tech., working, Dubai/Bangalore, 9037442689

HINDU NAIR (PILLAI), 27/175, B.Tech, working in Cognizant (CTS), Chennai (Team Leader). Contact Number: 8925799716, 8590935369.

SEEKING US based girl for 30 yr old Software Engineer boy of Kerala origin, raised in an interreligious (Christian, Hindu) family and settled in US. Wts app +91 701 208 6580.

TAMIL

Christian BC, 1995, 171cm B.Tech (NIT)M.S.(USA)works in USA, H1B Visa, Seeks Educated Girl Working/ willing to settle in USA.Ct: 9443714023

CHRISTIAN, NADAR, Age 28, ME, Private, 50 Lakhs. CT 8138009235

TAMIL

CHRISTIAN NADAR, Doctor, Divorcee 36yrs/178cm, MBBS, Dip in Cardiology better earning lives in Nagercoil seeks qualified/ Divorced Bride.9003983230

RC NADAR, 31yrs, BE, Central Govt Job, Well Educated Family, Seeks Suitable Bride. 9380791999/ 9841329471

SPECIALITY DOCTOR Groom 33/173cm Tamil Muslim, never married working abroad looking for suitable bride. 8870279396 whatsapp.

US CITIZEN, 25, 5ft 11inch, software eng, Seeking conservative Tamil Muslim hijabi girl based in US. Family–oriented religious. Contact: adh89104@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN, 28, Nadar, IT Engineer Chennai (12 LPA), from good family, seeks spiritual girl with ministry interest. ethansamuel629@gmail.com

TAMILMUSLIM 45/172 Goodlooking divorced govt doctor Chennai seeks fair unmarried bride ct : 8220194628

MUSLIM, LABBI, Age 25, BE, Private, 12 Lakhs. CT 8138900316

CHRISTIAN, RC, Age 28, B Arch, Private, 15 Lakhs. CT 8138009140

TELUGU

HINDU Gavara Naidu Bride 28, MNC 20 LPA, Seeks Tamil speaking Groom working at B'lore / Hyd. 99946 50674.

URDU

URDU SMU M.Tech Employed Very Fair 33/165 Seeks Bridegroom with Clean Habits. Ct: 9842023966.

SUNNI URDU family Chennai seeks religious, professional groom (under 29) settled in Saudi/Germany, for 25–yr fair, religious IT bride working in Saudi. WhatsApp: +966569772471

SUNNI MUSLIM Slim Fair Good Looking B.Tech.IT 24/ 5.4 Working MNC. Seeks Compatible Religious Match from Well Educated Family 8807807383

TAMIL

PROTESTANT CHRISTIAN 47 yrs,well settled in US with 2 child. Re–marriage seeks qualified, Suitable Bride willing to settle in US. 7806889911

HINDU, 38/183CM, fair, handsome. PG Engg. Consultant. Divorced (no kids). Seeks well–educated, good–looking girl, unmarried/divorcee (no kids) from good Tamil family (Mudaliar, Pillai, Chettiar, Naidu preferred). Ct: 9566221110

HINDU, MUDALIAR, Age 28, MBBS, Doctor, 10 Lakhs. CT 8138901227

RICH MUDALIYAR, 35yrs, M.sc, Well Educated Family background in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Bride. 6385293227

HINDU, CASTE NO BAR, Age 25, Self employed, 15 Lakhs. CT 8138901097

HINDU, NADAR, Age 28, MS, Doctor, 5 Lakhs. CT 8138900412

HINDU CHETTIAR 31 / 178cm M. S(ECE), Puratathi, Handsome, settled in Australia, Seeks Bride from Equal or Sub Caste. Contact : 8122980640

THEVAR AGAMUDAYAR, 1995 born 178 cms, Maham, B.E, MBA., Infosys - 18L/PA @ Chennai seeks Qualified Bride from Mukkulatthor Community. WhatsApp: 9489378378

GOUNDER CHENNAI–BASED Canadian Citizen Sr Software Engg BE MS–USA 89 born height 167cm Fair Slim Affluent Caste No bar Ct: 9363635101

VANNIAKULAKSHTRIAR GROOM 43yrs, Divorced shortlived no issue. B.E, M.B.A(UK). Working in IT Company Chennai. 15laks/PA Contact: 9944928521, 9487935521.

HINDU MUDALIYAR 48, Handsome, VVIP, Remarriage, Chennai, seeks good looking Decent, VIP bride. 7401489892

VANNIYAKULA Kshatriya 1987 MS MBA employed in UK Glasgow wants bride employed in UK or willing to move to UK.Ct:9342994247, 9442910057

ADI DRAVIDA Hindu Tamil 28/168cm B.Tech, MS USA planning PhD, Doctor parents. settled in Chennai seeks bride from good family. Ph: 89037 16157.

MD DOCTOR 41. Chennai,Own Clinic, Reddiyar, Mutual divorcee.Seeks working Bride any OC,BC caste. 8124570336

SC HINDU Mithunam Thiruvathirai 32 / 180 BE, MBA Smart IT Chennai seeks Homely, Educated, Mingle with Join & Well settled Family. Caste No Bar. 9789920881 / 8778546961

CNB, 28YRS, MBBS, pursuing MD, Very Elite business family in Chennai, Seeks suitable Bride Ct: 6385293227

44, MBA, Ex Cyber Security IT, Seeks Good Character Girl, Hindu Pattinava Chettiar 1st Mrg, CNB 9742033888

SMART, MATURE 26, 185cm, scion of affluent Tamil/Telugu business family. Chennai roots. US citizen (LA) , yet can relocate globally. Seeks compatible bride. Call/WA 9345634365.

B.FUL, EDUCATED Girls 30 to 35yrs from Decent Family invited for our sons 38&40yrs Working in Hyd & Blore Cast no bar 8838090744/ 9444160394

AUDITOR/ 46 Chennai/ Seeks Any Vegetarian Hindu Girl. Contact : 9884398109

CASTE NO Bar, 51yrs, BE, 1st life, Elite business family in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Bride. Ct: 9962791888

MUDALIAR 29, BE,MBA 178cm 22L PA Smartlook, well Settled Family Seeks Bride CNB, 8778514465/ 7200866346

HINDU, GOUNDER, Age 28, Diploma, Private, 14 Lakhs. CT 8138900575

HINDU, PILLAI, Age 38, Divorced, BE, Private, 40 Lakhs. CT 8137003550

TRICHY–BASED HINDU Groom, 40 yrs, 180 cm, MBA, Working (30LPA), Never Married. Open to Divorced/Widowed Bride (No Kids). Caste No Bar. Contact: 8220765305

SC / Intercaste, Hindu, 30 yrs B.Com MBA, Manager (HDFC Bank) Chennai, seeks bride.9444123939 /9176265079

PILLAI SOZHIYA 33M/177cms Sadhayam (Ragu) Chennai, M.Sc Infosys 1.2LacPM Pillai/Mudaliar/ CNB+916379635149

TAMIL

THULUVA VELALAR, BE, Dec 1981, Software Professional seeks suitable bride. 9442112385/7353847074 (W app)

SOZHIYA VELLALAR/ Any Similar Caste Fair Good looking 29-34 yrs Prof qlfd bride for BE, SWE MNC 22 LPA, Height: 170cm, Fair handsome teetotaler. Send BHP to 9611704038

HINDU–TAMIL BOY 34yrs/BE/SWE/ 172cms/25LPA/Sc/Ayillam. Settled in Bangalore, well–educated and financially stable. Looking for compatible match. Contact 9845401461.

VELLALAR PILLAI / MUDALIYAR. B.Tech. MBA. HR. IT. Chennai. Poorattadhi, 30 / 167 Cm. N.V. Well settled, educated family. Seeks SW / HR / Finance / CA Professional. 9444367697

HINDU, VANNIYAR, Age 24, DCE, Business, Income 20 Lakhs. Contact 8138901189.

HINDU, KONGU vellala gounder, Age 28, B.Com, doing business at Coimbatore, Income 50 Lakhs. Contact 8138901294.

HINDU, CHETTIYAR, Age 31, B.E, IT professional, Income 8 Lakhs. Contact 8137003549

HINDU, BRAHMIN, Age 24, B.Tech, Web Developer at Bangalore, Income 15 Lakhs. Contact 8138002746

HINDU, PILLAI, Age 27, M.Sc Completed, IT professional at Madurai, from good family background. Contact 8138900557.

PILLAI 44 Divorcee M.Com Central Govt servant seeks bride caste no bar 9094020665

PILLAI 35/177 BE MBA SWE MNC Bank 21LPA Chennai seeks suitable bride. CNB. Horoscope matching not mandatory.Brok excuse. 9500147451

WELL Settled Tamil based Intercaste (SC+Brahmin) Dr Couple, looking for suitable Bride for their Son 31 Yrs (Ragu-Kethu) Dr MD Pathology KMCH, Cbe. Mob: 9842221324, 9894186469.

HINDU MUDALIAR 34/165 M.Tech Class 4 Marine Engr, seeks bride from any caste & good family. Ct:9791507303

RICH MUDALIYAR, 28yrs, BE,Industralist, Elite business family in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Bride 6385293227

NAIDU 33YRS working in MNC seeks educated & employed Naidu (sub caste any) Bride Chennai 9498072042

TAMIL YADAVA:30/(165CM),B.TECH,LEAD Data Scientist @ IT–MNC (Chennai),Salary 50LPA,Residing at own 3BHK flat in chennai.Seeks working bride(Professional) from same caste.Ct:9840494566

37/175 B.Tech MS London Vanniyar Kullasathiryan working Senior Software Engineer in Europe country earning 6 digit salary per month Seeking good looking bride with degree holder ct : 81228 03880

30/180 BE Vanniyar Kullasathiryan working Associate Manager in reputed IT organisation earning 6 digit salary per month Seeks fair bride with degree holder Contact 63822 23144

IYER KASYAB Barani 39/180 Mutual Divorcee Double Masters, Ph.D Thesis Employed Germany Seeks Qualified Unmarried Bride Willing Relocate Germany. Ct: 9444551216 / 04426861097

MUDALIAR 32/185 Handsome, MBBS,MD, Own Hospital, 6000000.PA, Elite Family, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

PILLAI, 1984, Uthiradam, 2ndMarriage, M.Com, IT Sal–90k, Own House,1st, 2nd marriage ok. 8754756329

IYER, 1989, Uthirattathi, BA –Sanskrit, Own House & Padasala. 2L Per month. Iyer, Iyengar ok. 8838706221

TAMIL BRAHMIN Iyer, handsome boy (46 yrs/ 170 cms / Sadhayam) MCA, employed in Chennai, belongs to a well settled family seeks a warm hearted / Educated / Good looking girl from a good family background. Employment is optional. Ct: 9500995343.

Smart/ Sep 95/180 cm/ Mtech Professional, affluent Pillai Family seeks Educated Bride preferably from Ahmedabad/ Mumbai/ Delhi / Email: cbechn1995@gmail.com

Seeking BRIDE for Bridegroom

Hindu, Kulalar/Udayaar, 44 yrs, 170 cms, M.Tech, IT professional, Caste open for discussion. First Marriage Only

CT: 93842 76066

TAMIL

Naidu Affluent Chennai 29/165 M.E MNC and Own Business, Rental Income CNB 9841097110.

Seeking Vegetarian Bride for 32 Years Fair Boy, Working in MNC, Chennai, Contact: 8072867231

Mudaliar 49yr Divorce-No Issue BBA Chennai Industrialist Rich seek Homemaker for same/Subcaste 9841186098

WELL SETTLED 35 Year Hindu Nadar Post Graduate Doctor on Profession in Australia Needs a Suitable Girl. Interested to Settle at Australia. Caste No Bar. Rajan: 7358787538

TELUGU

AGE 28, Male, B.E, Software Engineer, Chennai is seeking BRIDE 24–27yrs, educated & employed Balija/ Gavara Naidu #9094937080

RICH NAIDU, 31yrs, BE, MBA, Elite business family in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Bride Contact: 6385293227

CHENNAI TELUGU, 30 years 168 cm B.Tech, MBA, Business Entrepreneur settled family, looking for suitable bride. Caste No Bar. Ct: 9003239626

BALIJA NAIDU 32yrs Rohini Rishabam Fair Business (Surgical Manufacturer & Distributors) Seeks Any Telugu Caste Bride. 9790963402.

24 , TELUGU CHETTIYAR, 16 VEEDU MUMMUDIYAR, BE (Civil), 29 Years, Self Employed seeks bride [23+1], Contact: 6379726238.

KAMMANAIDU 33/165/SOFTWARE Engineer/12L PA Seeks Educated Bride From Decent Family. 9840036209/ 9444363481

RICH NAIDU, 30yrs, B.Tech, MBA, 4lakhs pm, Well Educated Family, Seeks Suitable Bride Contact: 6385293227

AGE 27, 171cms B.E Software Engineer Chennai 11Lacs P.A Seeks Bride 22–25 Employed Any Naidu 6369300716.

Telugu Brahmin Divorcee, 55 Yrs, Teetotaller , Working Sr Position Seeking Alliance from an Educated, graceful lady from respectable family with no liabilities same cast prefed, email : kris23wt@gmail.com

Hindu Kamma Naidu 42/170cms MBA Business. Rs.3LPM, Chennai Seeks Suitable Bride. CNB. Ct: 89460 61119.

URDU

TN MUSLIM Syed Urdu 28/166 cm Handsome Doctor MD.DM.AIIMS, Delhi seeks beautiful urdu,syed/sheik MD/M.S. religious bride TN/Pondy Cell 9952828485

SMU PARENTS Seek Alliance for their Son 27 yrs MS Engineer USA.Bride should be Practising Muslim Studying/ working in USA Based in Chennai only.Whatsapp 9840812044/8925961323

SMU 27/175 cm BE MBA working in MNC Chennai family seeks pious Muslimah professionally qualified bride from respectable family. 9884624899

SUNNI MUSLIM Groom wheatish, Slim 27, 5.8, B.Tech, Own Business 1.5L+pm Seeks Bride Slim Fair from Well Educated Religious Fam. 8807807383

BRIDES & GROOMS WANTED

TAMIL

32Y Son, Tamil, SC (Caste No Bar), ME, MBA 17 LPA, 29Y Daughter, B.Tech, MBA 13LPA work in IT & 26Y daughter Bsc seek suitable Bride & Grooms. 9441677205.

MARRIAGE BUREAU

US UK Canada All Caste Religion 1st Marriage Remarriage. Ct:8248757840

DOCTORS, BRIDES, Grooms All Religions. Contact : 7358 638363. Visit: www.Indiandoctorsmatrimony.com.

THE HINDU

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A timeline

June 22
Two advocates, Ojasvi Gowda and Sachin Desai, claim that a former sanitation worker at the Sri Kshetra Dharmasthala temple between 1995 and 2014, is ready to show sites of mass burial where he was forced to bury bodies of those allegedly "sexually harassed and murdered", including many women

July 3-4
The whistleblower lodges a written complaint with the Dakshina Kannada police, who register a First Information Report

July 11
The complainant makes a voluntary statement before a Belthangady court and also submits partial skeletal remains he claimed to have buried years ago and exhumed it himself

July 15
Sujatha Bhat lodges a complaint that her daughter Ananya Bhat, studying medicine, went missing in 2003 after visiting Dharmasthala

July 19
State government forms Special Investigation Team led by Director-General of Police Pronab Mohanty

July 28
The complainant shows 13 sites around the Netravathi bathing ghat and surrounding forest area where he claimed to have buried bodies. The SIT conducted mahazar of these sites

July 29
SIT starts digging at the sites indicated by the complainant

August 4
A second complainant, Jayant T., surfaces and claims to show the site where the body of a minor girl was buried

With digging not yielding much, political temperature goes up

The BJP has planned a protest in the pilgrim town claiming the State government is 'hurting religious sentiments'; Home Minister says if the complainant's claims are proved to be false, action will be initiated against him

"It has been many years and there are many changes on the ground. There are new roads and a lot of JCB work has taken place. So many spots mismatched. Only site number 6 matched, and we found the body.

COMPLAINANT SPEAKING TO A NATIONAL TV CHANNEL

"The SIT is going in the right direction. If the complainant's claims are found to be false, there are legal provisions to take action against him

G. PARAMESHWARA,
Home Minister

"There is a systematic conspiracy behind this case to tarnish the image of Dharmasthala and the administrators of the temple

D.K. SHIVAKUMAR,
Deputy Chief Minister

"A smear campaign is being carried out against the holy place, hurting the religious sentiments of the Hindus

B.Y. VIJAYENDRA,
BJP Karnataka president

DHARMASTHALA CASE

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
Bengaluru

With no major discovery of skeletal remains in Dharmasthala after digging 17 spots listed by a man who claimed to have buried multiple bodies between 1995 and 2014, the political temperature in Karnataka seems to be soaring.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which tried to corner the government over the issue in the ongoing legislature session, has planned a protest in the pilgrim town claiming that the State government is 'hurting religious sentiments of Hindus'.

This has pushed the Congress into damage-control mode. Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said there was a systematic conspiracy to 'tarnish' the image of Dharmasthala, and said the government would stand by the holy site's administrators. Home Minister G. Parameshwara, while defending the SIT probe, said if the complainant's claims are proved to be false, action would be initiated against him.

Man in the spotlight: The former sanitation worker, who has complained about mass burial of bodies in Dharmasthala, along with the SIT at one of the sites. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

No major recovery

Of the 17 sites dug up by the SIT, partial human skeletal remains – 14 bones – were found at only one place – site no. 6. Unless forensic experts conclude that the person whose remains were found at site no. 6 was murdered, which is reportedly tough given that the entire skeleton has not been found, that case will also hit a dead end, sources said.

The remains found at site no. 14 – 81 bones – are said to be a likely case of suicide, suspected to be a recent case. If forensic reports indicate the person died recently, it raises questions as to how the complainant, who claims to have left Dharmasthala in 2014, knew of the case.

In both cases, the remains found are, prima facie, said to be of males. The complainant had submitted partial skeletal remains, which he claimed to be that of a woman he buried over a decade ago, However, these remains also belong to a male, forensic reports have indicated.

The complainant's claims of mass graves with 60-100 bodies at site no. 13 have also fallen flat.

The road ahead

The SIT is likely to dig only a few more spots and not all spots where the complainant claims to have buried bodies. The complainant listed five specific instances of burying bodies in his voluntary statement in a court. Three of those five sites have already been dug up, and no remains have been found. The SIT is likely to dig the remaining two spots. The SIT will also likely dig a few other key spots where the complainant claims to have buried bodies.

A second complaint, by Jayanth T., is also set to be probed by the SIT. He claims to have been a witness to the burial of a 13-year-old girl, the investigation into whose death was botched up by the police who made it out to be that of a middle-aged woman who committed suicide by consuming poison.

The SIT has been trying to procure documents pertaining to the Unnatural Death Report (UDR) case, and is yet to take a call on digging the spot. If no remains are found, the SIT may initiate legal action against the complainant, as per the statement of the Home Minister in the Assembly.

Meanwhile, the SIT will probe the two partial skeletal remains found, and the missing case of Ananya Bhat, given by her mother Sujatha Bhat.

Diggings and findings till now

The SIT has till date dug at 17 sites shown by the complainant and recovered partial skeletal remains at only one

Site no. 6
The SIT recovered partial skeletal remains, 14 bones, including teeth and some fragments of a skull. Prima facie, forensic doctors have ruled the remains as belonging to a male

Site no. 13
The complainant had claimed it to be a mass grave where he had buried 60-100 bodies, at a depth of over 16 feet. Ground-Penetrating Radar was deployed, but it yielded no results and no remains were found when the site was dug

Site no. 14: When the SIT reached site no. 11, the complainant claimed that the actual site was a short distance away and led the team to a spot around 150 metres away to a place called Banglegudda, now marked as site no. 14. The SIT recovered partial skeletal remains, 81 bones, including a skull and a backbone column, prima facie of a male, lying on the ground. They also recovered male garments and a red sari hanging from a tree, indicating that it could be a case of suicide. When they dug the site, no remains were found

Challenges of investigating the skeletal remains found

1. Autopsy will likely tell the sex and age when the person died

2. The timeline when the body was buried is key to investigation. But no suitable technology to determine that is available in India. Carbon 12 dating will tell the age of objects older than 100 years, which is not the case here. SIT is considering three forensic technologies to determine the age of the object:

- Aspartic Amino Acid Racemization
- Infrared Spectroscopy
- Raman Spectroscopy

3. Deciphering cause of death: For SIT to take up a murder investigation, it has to be concluded that the person, whose remains have been recovered, was killed

- No soft tissue causes of death can be determined now. Allegations of rape can also not be verified
- Experts are looking for blunt force trauma to the skull, unnatural cuts, fractures to the bones, and seeing if there are some traces of poison in the bones
- Full skeletons have not been found, and it is tough to determine cause of death with partial remains

4. Establishing the identity of the deceased: Forensically, identity can be established only by a DNA match with the deceased's blood relatives. The SIT will likely create a database of untraced missing cases during the test period 1995-2014 in Belthangady, draw blood samples from their blood relatives, and try to match them with the remains found. The SIT is also making a list of unidentified, unclaimed bodies in Unnatural Death Reports cases in Belthangady during the same test period

State awaits Central grants of ₹880 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Even as the State has marked 97% progress under the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan (SCSP) and the Tribals Sub-Plan (TSP), Karnataka is awaiting ₹880 crore from the Centre that was supposed to be released for various Centrally-sponsored schemes.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who on Saturday assessed the progress of welfare programmes at a review meeting of the Karnataka State Commission For Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, expressed concern over pending grants.

Instructing departments to take immediate steps to secure funds from the Centre, the Chief Minister directed officials to ensure strict and effective implementation of the SCSP/TSP Act.

Presenting the financial performance, officials said that during the previous year, ₹38,793 crore was released under the SCSP/TSP. Of this, ₹38,717 crore was utilised, marking 97% progress.

₹2.97 lakh crore

The Chief Minister pointed out that it has been a decade since the enactment of the SCSP/TSP Act, under which Karnataka has spent over ₹2.97 lakh crore for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Despite this, he noted, the social, economic, and educational upliftment of these communities has not reached the expected levels.

The Act mandates a minimum allocation of 24.1% of the State's annual Budget for SC/ST welfare. Mr. Siddaramaiah recalled that in 2019-20, the allocation fell short of this requirement and insisted that such lapses must not be repeated. For 2024-25, the State has earmarked ₹42,017.51 crore.

Study by ISEC

As it has been 10 years since the enactment of the SCSP/TSP Act, a progress evaluation was conducted by ISEC. A study was undertaken in 39 taluks with higher SC/ST population, considering parameters like education, health, standard of living, and poverty eradication. During this period, an annual growth rate of 9.6% was achieved in development grants. Compared to other States, Karnataka has been at the forefront, officials informed the Chief Minister.

Devadasi survey from the first week of September

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday announced that the State government will conduct a fresh survey of women who were part of the Devadasi system in Karnataka from the first week of September. This has been a pending demand of the community.

"Suitable amendments to the law will be made to impose stricter punishment on those forcing girls into the practice," the Chief Minister said.

Devanur Mahadeva urges Chief Minister to implement internal quota without delay

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Kannada writer and activist Devanur Mahadeva has written to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, urging him to implement the recommendations of the H.N. Nagamohan Das Commission report on internal reservation, which have been made "in keeping with the spirit of the Supreme Court judgement on the issue."

The letter comes ahead of a special meeting of the State Cabinet on Tuesday to discuss the report, which was submitted to the government on August 4. Dalit left and right communities have been divided on the report, with the former demanding its implementation at the earliest and the latter calling it "unscientific."

In his letter, Mr. Mahadeva says that he writes amid "confusion and anguish" that implementation of the report might be pushed indefinitely because of the controversies surrounding it.

With the government recruitment process linked to internal reservation implementation, the writer has expressed apprehension that postponing it might lead to thousands of youths being denied employment.

Commending the commission for covering 94% of the population and conducting a thorough survey, Mr. Mahadeva also said: "This is not to suggest that the objections against the report should be brushed aside."

Protest tomorrow

Meanwhile, the Dalit right groups have upped their ante and announced a protest against the report on Monday at Freedom Park under the banner of the Karnataka Rajya Balagai Jathigala Okkoota.

They have demanded that the government reject the report and conduct a fresh survey.

'Study Abroad Expo' today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Department of Skill Development is holding a 'Study Abroad Expo' at Hotel Lalit Ashok in Bengaluru on Sunday.

60 varsities

Over 60 international universities, presenting academic opportunities for Karnataka students will be at the venue.

Medical Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil said that over 5,000 students have already registered for the study abroad initiative of the department.

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi, Pin Code.585 102.
Phone No: 08472 256881 E-mail: gescomdsm@gmail.com

No.GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(Proj)/EEE(DSM)/AEE(DSM)/AE/(DSM)/2025-26/36114-150 Date: 16-8-2025

:: SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION ::

(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited, Kalaburagi invites short term tender for the work of "Selection of Solar Power Generators (SPGs) on the basis of Build Own & Operate (BOO) for Design, Survey, Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning, Operation & Maintenance of grid connected distributed solar power plants for solarization of selected Agri feeders at Sub-Station (SS) level in GESCOM jurisdiction. The associated 11kV line to connect the plant with concerned SS and Remote Monitoring System (RMS) of solar power plants through RESCO mode, for 25 years" including supply of all equipment's/ materials, erection, testing and commissioning under competitive bidding from eligible bidders through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal on Percentage Basis.

1) **GESCOM/CEE(O)/ SEE(Proj)/EE DSM/ PM-KUSUM-C/SPG/548-569**
Kalaburagi Dist -11 SS : 50.4 MW, Koppal Dist -04 SS : 14.92 MW, Ballari Dist -05 SS : 18.89 MW, Vijayanagar Dist -02 SS : 15.5 MW, **-> Total: 22 SS and 99.41 MW.**

2. GESCOM/CEE(O)/ SEE(Proj)/EE DSM/ PM-KUSUM-C/SPG/570-603
Kalaburgi Dist-18 SS : 75.76 MW, Koppal Dist-03 SS : 13.91 MW, Raichur-06 SS : 25.97 MW, Ballari Dist -04 SS : 17MW, Bidar-03 SS : 19MW, **-> Total: 34 SS and 151.64 MW.**

The bid documents will be available in **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after 18.08.2025, the prospective bidders can obtain further details from the office of the DSM cell corporate office GESCOM Kalaburagi.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/399/KSMC&A/2025-26

Sd/- Chief Engineer Electy., (Operations), Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public is hereby informed that we, Mr. Ali Muhammad Jan and Mr. Muhammed Muaz Jan, intends to enter into transactional document/s with respect to property situated at Doddacheemanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore which is more particularly described in the "Schedule" hereunder and herein after referred to as **"Schedule Property"** from its respective present owner, namely, Mr. K. Muniraju, who has represented to us that he is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property having unrestricted right of alienation over the same. The owner has further represented to us that the Schedule Property is free from all kinds of encumbrances, charges, liens, litigations and/or any third-party rights/claims of any nature whatsoever.

Notice is hereby given that if any person's, entity, firm, company, institution (corporate or otherwise) has or claims any right, title, interest, pending litigation, tenancy, mortgages, charge, lien or demand or any other interest of whatsoever nature upon the Schedule Property or any part thereof, the same may be brought to the notice of undersigned in writing together with all details and documents in support of such claim within 10 days from the date of this notice, failing which, it shall be deemed that the said owner has clear and marketable title to the Schedule Property and that none else have any right, title, interest or claim whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property and we would be at liberty to proceed to enter into and complete the intended transaction in respect of the Schedule Property. Any objection and/or claims received after expiry of the period mentioned shall neither be entertained nor be binding on us.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the agricultural land measuring 1 acre 20 Gunas in New Survey No. 158/1(Old Survey No. 158), situated at Doddacheemanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore, and bounded on the:
East by : Sy. No. 86;
West by : Road and Dyavarahalli Village Boundary;
North by : Land bearing Sy. No. 158/5;
South by : Land bearing Sy. No. 158/4

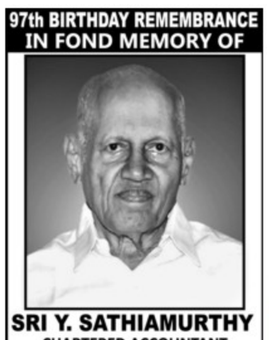
Sd/-.,
Mr. Ali Muhammad Jan and Mr. Muhammed Muaz Jan,
Phone No. - +91 9742972097

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

97th BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE IN FOND MEMORY OF



SRI Y. SATHIAMURTHY
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
17.08.1928 - 16.08.2010
Family Members, Relatives & Friends.
Thirugnanam & Co
Paary & Sivasakthy Estates
Sathiamurthy Mohan VTC

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
Bengaluru: 98455 29981,
Hubballi: 0836 - 2338600
Mangaluru: 0824 - 2417575,
from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Online booking: www.thehinduads.com
DONATE EYES - GIFT SIGHT

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

MRIDHULA
17-8-1985 13-9-2001
Happy Birthday Dear,
"Your presence remain fresh forever in our mindful thoughts"
-Maa, daddy, kusy & Aswin

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

THIRD YEAR REMEMBRANCE

Smt. RADHA
W/o N.Thiagarajan
10.01.1940 - 17.08.2022
Fondly remembered by
Son: T.Subramanian
Daughters: C.Usha Rani, T.Shanthi
Sons-in-law, Daughter-in-law
Grand Daughters, Grand Sons

Tushar Gandhi

‘Governors are disrupting academic autonomy’

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Social activist Tushar Gandhi strongly criticised the growing interference by Governors in universities, accusing them of acting as “hitmen” for the Union government.

Mr. Gandhi, the great-grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, was inaugurating a seminar on the ‘Challenges faced by Universities’ organised by the Kerala Sasthra Sahithya Parishad on Saturday.

The Governors, he said were no longer guardians of the Constitution but instruments of ideological control in Opposition-ruled States to sabotage governance and disrupt academic autonomy.

“The objective of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh is to take over as many educational institutions as possible. They are using the Governors to achieve their objective,” he said.

Advocating a decentralised model of learning, Mr. Gandhi decried steps to homogenise education and instead, usher in a system that is “more independent and region-specific.”

ASI resumes underwater studies off the coast of Mahabalipuram

The exercise is in continuation of the earlier studies done about two decades ago

S. Ganesan
TIRUCHI

The Underwater Archaeology Wing (UAW) of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has resumed underwater archaeological studies on submerged remains off the Mahabalipuram coast.

The exercise is in continuation of the earlier studies done about two decades ago. The UAW had undertaken archaeological studies at the Mahabalipuram coast in 2001, and subsequently, systematic excavations were carried out in 2004-05, which involved diving operations and surveys. The investigations had provided evidence of submerged structures.

The ASI team involved in studies on submerged remains off Mahabalipuram coast. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The UAW recently launched a new phase of fieldwork at Mahabalipuram. The team is equipped with a new Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) that can capture high-resolution imagery and video documentation of submerged remains without causing physical disturbance.

The ASI team comprises Alok Tripathi, Additional Director General; Aprajita Sharma, Head of Underwater Archaeology Wing; P.T. Nagarajan, Assistant Epigraphist; Sanjay Kumar Sharma, Senior Photographer; and archaeologists of ASI’s Chennai Circle.

In a post on X, the ASI said the UAW was “exploring the submerged remains off Mahabalipuram coast to solve the riddle of the ancient past built during the 7-8th Century Pallava dynasty, which served as a landmark to sailors for hundreds of years.”

Union Minister of Culture and Tourism, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, in a post on X, said the team was being guided by a woman diver-archaeologist. “Proud of the UAW out in the waters off Mahabalipuram bringing to light its hidden stories... Thanks to their dedication, the treasures beneath the waves will be cared for, just like the monuments that rise on the shore - for generations to discover and cherish,” he said.

NIA arrests terror suspect, his woman accomplice

K. Umashanker
PUTTAPARTHI

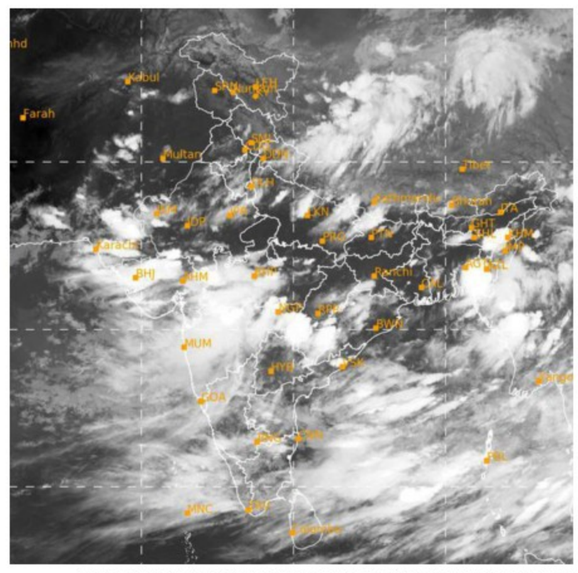
The National Investigation Agency (NIA) took into custody Kothwal Noor Mohammad, 40, at Dharmavaram in Sri Sathya Sai district of Andhra Pradesh on Saturday on charges of suspected links to terrorist groups in Pakistan.

Noor Mohammad was a worker at a tea stall. The NIA officials, along with the police, raided his residence and took him into custody after finding out that he had allegedly been in touch with suspected Pakistani terrorist outfits through social media.

The NIA also arrested a 35-year-old woman who was in touch with Noor from Anantapur district on Saturday.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	49	33.0	25.4	Kozhikode	47	28.5	23.4
Ahmedabad	5	29.6	27.0	Kurnool	2	30.5	24.3
Aizawl	2.4	32.8	21.6	Lucknow	3.3	35.5	26.7
Allahabad	—	35.7	27.0	Madurai	0.5	38.0	26.0
Bengaluru	1.2	26.4	20.1	Mangaluru	34	27.6	23.1
Bhopal	—	30.4	24.0	Mumbai	245	26.3	24.0
Bhubaneswar	5.4	32.0	24.9	Mysuru	1	27.0	20.0
Chandigarh	8	33.5	25.8	New Delhi	0.5	34.5	25.0
Chennai	10.1	34.2	27.6	Patna	—	35.1	28.7
Coimbatore	—	31.2	21.6	Port Blair	47	27.2	22.2
Dehradun	45	31.6	23.5	Puducherry	—	32.0	26.3
Gangtok	0.1	26.3	19.1	Pune	1	28.0	24.0
Goa	21	30.0	26.0	Raipur	33	32.0	25.0
Guwahati	—	36.5	26.3	Ranchi	7	30.2	22.7
Hubballi	—	25.0	22.0	Shillong	2	27.0	18.0
Hyderabad	43	26.0	21.6	Shimla	11	24.4	20.0
Imphal	—	32.2	27.2	Srinagar	—	32.5	20.5
Jaipur	—	33.3	27.6	Thiruvananthapuram	1	30.5	25.2
Kochi	2	27.4	24.4	Tiruchi	—	33.9	25.4
Kohima	2	23.8	19.4	Vijayawada	—	31.1	27.0
Kolkata	1	34.6	26.8	Visakhapatnam	8	32.1	26.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	8	48	90	28	43	
Bengaluru	9	48	59	—	86	
Chennai	8	17	52	44	61	
Delhi	8	15	33	186	191	
Hyderabad	15	17	21	101	93	
Kolkata	4	138	13	37	34	
Lucknow	7	38	23	32	51	
Mumbai	23	12	19	60	56	
Pune	—	21	90	18	29	
Visakhapatnam	9	40	33	63	86	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Gurugram, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 305 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 10

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

‘Only legally valid cases should be admitted in AC courts’

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda on Saturday warned Assistant Commissioners (ACs) against admitting cases beyond their legal jurisdiction.

Chairing a monthly review meeting with ACs through a videoconference, the Minister said some officers are registering civil cases that should be tried in civil courts. “No officer has the authority to admit cases outside their jurisdiction. Citizens cannot be denied their legitimate rights, but law cannot be bypassed either,” he cautioned.

The Minister expressed displeasure over ACs issuing orders that lacked legal standing. He said ACs in five districts had passed orders exceeding their powers, and Deputy Commissioners had been asked to inquire and submit reports for further action. “From now on, every order must clearly mention the relevant Act and Section under which it is issued,” he directed.

On the delay in disposal of cases, the Minister noted that AC courts currently have 18,000 cases pending for over six months, 14,000 for more than a year, and 4,000 for over five years. He instructed that no case should remain pending for more than four months and pressed for early disposal of all long-pending cases.

Pinarayi slams Modi for ‘glorifying’ RSS

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has decried Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s “namechecking adulation” of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) during his address to the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Independence Day.

In a statement here on Saturday, Mr. Vijayan said Mr. Modi denigrated the Independence Day by attempting to gift the legacy of the freedom movement to the RSS, which was outlawed in the aftermath of Mahatma Gandhi's assassination.

He spotlighted the Union Ministry of Petroleum’s controversial Independence Day poster which, he stated, almost superimposed the image of V.D. Savarkar, an RSS ideologue who faced trial for plotting to assassinate Gandhi, over the image of the nation’s founding father.

IMD issues red alert for five districts in Telangana

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for five districts in Telangana for Sunday followed by an orange alert in nine districts and a yellow alert in 11 districts. According to IMD’s latest bulletin, a red alert, indicating the likelihood of very heavy to extremely heavy rainfall was issued for Bhadradri Kothagudem, Hanumakonda, Mahabubabad, Mulugu and Warangal districts. Thunderstorms accompanied with lightning and gusty winds are likely to occur in isolated areas of all districts.

According to IMD’s latest bulletin, a red alert was issued for Bhadradri Kothagudem, Hanumakonda, Mahabubabad, Mulugu and Warangal districts.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of General Public that our Clients are intending to purchase immovable property bearing Municipal Corporation New No. 8, Old No. 6, having EPID No.9686684429, situated at Venkataswamy Naidu Street, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-01, with building standing thereon and bounded on the East By: Private property bearing Municipal Corporation No. 45, originally owned by Ibrahim Saheb and now Changalraya Chetty, West By: Venkataswamy Naidu Street, North by : Private property bearing No. 7, Old No. 5, Originally owned by Sri. Masila Mani and now owned by Sri. Venkatachalapathy Setty, South by: Private property bearing M.C.No.8/2, originally owned by Siddiqui and now by Manicham . And Measuring E-W: 40 ft 6 inches, N-S: 24 ft 6 inches in all measuring 992.25 sq ft, from its owners 1) JITENDRA KUMAR JAIN, 2) VINOD KUMAR JAIN & 3) RAKESH KUMAR JAIN all S/o., Sri. Babulal, No. 36, Shivan chetty Garden, B'lore-42. Any person/s having objections to the said transactions can register their claim/s with documentary evidence with the undersigned within 15 days of publication hereof, failing which, our clients will proceed with the transactions and any claim/s received thereafter will not be entertained.

H.V.NAVEEN KUMAR RAO &
H.V.SUNIL KUMAR RAO
ADVOCATES
No. 57, 1st Floor,Veerapillai Street,
Bengaluru-01 Mob: 9341380225

SUVARNA AROGYA SURAKSHA TRUST
(Department of Health & Family Welfare)
Arogya Soudha, 7st Floor, Magadi Road, Bengaluru - 23
Ph: 080-22536200 e-mail: directorsast@gmail.com

No: SAST/ADM/TEND/2/2025-ADM Date: 16.08.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Sub: Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust invites Tender for hiring of rental vehicle on monthly / daily / Airport pick & drop.

Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka registered under the Indian Trust Act of 1882 is implementing various Government Health Schemes. For the successful implementation of its Schemes, the Trust seeks to hire the services of rental vehicle on monthly/daily/Airport pick & drop. Bids have to be submitted on the KPPP Portal at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in /#/portal/ portal-home** from **18.08.2025.** The last date for submission of bids in the e-procurement portal is on **02.09.2025 upto 5.30 PM.**

Sd/- Director (Operations)
Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust

DIPR/CP/2350/SA/2025-26

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020

No. BDA/EE/East / TEN/ 417/2025-26 Date:16.08.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GoK e-Procurement platform https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

On behalf the Commissioner, BDA, The Executive Engineer, East Division, Bangalore Development Authority, HSR Layout BDA Complex, Bengaluru -560 102 invites tenders through KPP portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from eligible tenderers with class I licence issued by PWD Department, GoK for the works detailed below , **Name of work: (1)** Construction of Football stadium in Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Play Ground area at Austin Town, Bangalore East Taluk, Bengaluru. Value of work: **Rs. 11,85,56,055/-,** EMD: **Rs.11,85,000/-,** Period of work: **11 months** (Including Monsoon) **(2)** Construction of Sports Stadium by Bangalore Development Authorty in BBMP Play Ground at Jogupalya, Bangalore East Taluk, Bengaluru. Value of work: **Rs.10,99,50,964/-,** EMD: **Rs. 10,99,000/-,** Period of work: **11 months (Including Monsoon) (3)** Construction of Government College Building for Educational purposes in BDA CA site situated premises at 2nd Stage, Domlur Village, Bangalore East Taluk, Bengaluru. (Women’s College and Hostel), Value of work: **Rs.11,33,61,000/-.**EMD: **Rs.11,33,000/-.** Period of work: **18 months (Including Monsoon) (4)** Construction of Additional Class Rooms in Karnataka Public School (BDA CA site) situated at 1st Stage, Domlur Village, Bangalore East Taluk, Bengaluru. Value of work : **Rs. 20,84,55,236/-,** EMD: **Rs.20,84,000/-.** Period of work : **18 months (Including Monsoon)** Calendar of Tender Schedules: **(1)** Availability of Tender Document form : **20.08.2025 onwards (2)** Last date for receiving queries : **01.09.2025 upto 16.00 hrs, (3)** Pre-Bid Meeting : **03.09.2025 at 16.00 hrs. (4)** Bid Due Date : **15.09.2025 up to 16.00 hrs (5)** Technical Bid Opening: **17.09.2025 at 16.00 hrs (6)** Financial Bid Opening: **Will be Intimated.** Any changes in calendar of tender schedules will be notified in e-procurement only. Interested Tenderer’s may obtain further information on Registration and E-payment, by contacting GoK E-procurement helpdesk Tel: +91 80 46010000, +91 80 68948777 and E-procurement Cell contact no. 080-22230960, 080-22234115.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, East Division, BDA , Bengaluru

JALGAON CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
E-Tender Notice No.617 for 2025-26

Jalgaon City Municipal Corporation invites e Tender for Construction of Administrative Building for ward office No 04 at Girna Water Tank Located in Survey No 475 of Jalgaon City. The cost of tender is Rs 4,36,27,492/- (Excluding Tax) The detailed tender document is available at www.mahatenders.gov.in from 12/08/2025 . The right to accept and cancel the tender has been reserved by the Commissioner, Jalgaon City Municipal Corporation.

Sd/-xxx
(Dnyaneshwar Dhere)
Commissioner
Jalgaon City Municipal Corporation

Date:12.08.2025

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
49, East Wing,4th &% 5th Floor. Khania Bhavan Race Course Road
Bengaluru - 560 001. Phone No. 080-22265383
website: www.kiadb.in, e-Mail: cdoce1@kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-45/664/2025-26 Date: 16.08.2025

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

EPC Tender under two cover bid system is invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the work mentioned below:

Name of the work: 1) Survey, Investigation, Design, supply, Installation, Erection, Laying, Construction and Commissioning of MS Pipe Gravity Main from Doddaballapur junction to Gowribidanur and other Industrial areas, 5 years of O&M for Providing & supplying fresh water to the industrial areas in districts around Bengaluru on EPC Basis. (Package-5).

2) Survey, Investigation, Design, supply, Installation, Erection, Laying, Construction and Commissioning Jackwell cum pump house, MS Pipe Rising Main from Yetinahole Gravity Canal to MS Gravity Pipe near KWIN City including pumping machineries and allied works inside the pump houses, SCADA, Land Acquisition & 5 years of O&M for Providing & supplying fresh water to the industrial areas in districts around Bengaluru on EPC Basis. (Package-6)

- **Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: 19.09.2025 up to 4.00 pm**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1
KIADB, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/2352/AKAR/2024-25

HUBBALLI ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned by Govt. of Karnataka Undertaking)
Corporate Office: P.B. Road, Navanagar, Hubballi - 580 025.
Tel: (0836) 2223526. Website: www.hescom.co.in
E-mail: seepmc.hescom@gmail.com ; eepmc1.hescom@gmail.com
CIN No: U31401KA2002SGCO30437

No: HESCOM/SEE(PMC)/EE-P1/AEE-1/2025-26/CYS4660 Date: 16-08-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through K.P.P. Portal Only)

Superintending Engineer (Ele), Projects Monitoring Cell, Corporate Office, HESCOM, Hubballi invites the below said tender on Total turnkey and lumpsum basis in HESCOM jurisdiction.

Particulars	Bid Indent No.
Arranging power supply to an extent of 1200 KVA HT Installation in the name of the Register, Airport Authority of India, Hubballi on 33KV Voltage class in O&M Urban Division, HESCOM, Hubballi on Total Turnkey and Lump sum basis.	HESCOM/2025-26/ EL/WORK_INDENT917

The detailed notification regarding the bid enquiry can be obtained by logging in to the website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **05:00 PM of 16.08.2025.**

Superintending Engineer (Ele),
Project Monitoring Cell,
HESCOM, Hubballi

ಪಾಸಾಸಂ/ಧಾ/ವಿಶಾ/560/2025–26

KSSIDC KARNATAKA STATE SMALL INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Regd. Office: A.O. Building, Industrial Estate, Rajajinagar, Bangalore – 560 010.
Email:chiefengineerkssidc@gmail.com PH: 23407011-25

No: ep-102:ENGG:SE: New Establishment works:2025-26 Date:14-08-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT)

(Through GoK e-Procurement Portal only) (ITEM RATE CONTRACT)

On behalf of Managing Director, Superintending Engineer, Karnataka State Small Industries Development Corporation Limited (KSSIDC) invites e-bids tenders from the interested Contractors who have adequate financial resources, suitable technical man power and sufficient past experience for the work indicated below. The e-bid document and other relevant details are available at Government of Karnataka e-Procurement website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sl. No.	Name of the work	EMD (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Establishment of New Industrial Estate at Metikurke village, Aimangala hobli, Hiriyur Tq, Chitradurga District. (Phase-II) 39.71 acres.	23.14

Tender shall be submitted along with EMD. Tender documents and other information may be obtained from e-procurement website **https://kppp.Karnataka.gov.in** (Karnataka State Small Industries Development Corporation Limited) through e-procurement portal. The document may be downloaded from 1**6-08-2025 17.00 hrs. onwards.**

Calendar of Events

- Availability of Tender Document from **16-08-2025, 17.00 hrs. onwards.**
- Last date for receiving queries / clarifications **20-08-2025 upto 17.00 hrs.**
- Date of Pre bid Meeting **21-08-2025,12.00 hrs.**
- Last Date for Receipt of Tender **02-09-2025 upto 17.00 hrs.**
- Date of Opening of Technical electronic Document first is on **04-09-2025 after 17.00 hrs.**
- Date of Opening of Financial electronic document second will be after Approval of Technical Electronic document First through e – Procurement.

Sd/-
Superintending Engineer

DIPR/CP/JA/2357/2025-26

How document deficits may risk disenfranchising the poor, eroding trust in the Election Commission

Economic location is a major factor in terms of document possession; gap extends to entire families — only about one in every 10 poor households said every adult member had a birth certificate

LOKNITI-CSDS SURVEY

Suhas Palshikar
Sanjay Kumar
Sandeep Shastri
Krishangi Sinha

In the first part of this report, published in *The Hindu* on Saturday, we highlighted the substantial limitations on citizen access to documents asked for by the Election Commission (EC). In this second part, we seek answers to two questions: who stands to lose in the special intensive revision (SIR) process, and what it implies in terms of citizen trust in elections and the EC.

On the face of it, and particularly for relatively better-placed citizens, the requirement of documents may appear 'reasonable' and easy to fulfil. But on closer scrutiny, it becomes clear that as one moves down the social ladder, this requirement becomes daunting and exclusionary.

Uneven access

Aadhaar cards are nearly universal across all caste groups, but other documents show significant variation **(Table 1)**. PAN card ownership, for example, is highest among the general category respondents, with nine in every 10 respondents having a PAN, but falls to just over half among Scheduled Castes (SC). Passports are rare across social groups, with only about one in every five in the general category, and a mere 5% and 4% among SC and Scheduled Tribes (ST) respondents, respectively, possessing one. Tenth-class and domicile certificates follow a similar pattern, with higher possession among Other Backward Class (OBC) and general groups. Interestingly, caste certificates are far more common among ST respondents, with four of every five possessing one. In Assam, the National Register of Citizens (NRC) documents are almost universally held (95-99%) across all groups.

These gaps extend to birth certificate ownership, as shown in **Table 2**. Less than half of any caste group have one, with SCs showing the lowest coverage (about one in four), while the general category fares better (two in every five). When considering entire households **(Table 3)**, the proportion of families where every adult member has a birth certificate is even smaller – less than one-fourth in the general group, and just more than one in every 10 among SCs.

The documentation status of parents tells a similar story of uneven access. Large numbers across all caste groups report that their parents lack key documents such as SSC certificates or birth certificates. Among SC respondents, more than eight in every 10 mothers have no birth certificate, and three in every five fathers lack a caste certificate. While the general category shows slightly better figures, the gap remains substantial **(Table 4)**.

Economic status

Economic status further deepens the divide. Aadhaar coverage is nearly universal across all income groups, but wealthier respondents are far more likely to own PAN cards, passports, and educational certificates. Nearly half of the rich possess passports, compared with just one in 20 among the poor. Domicile and caste certificates also rise sharply with income. It is interesting to see that land/house allotment certificates are owned by nearly half the respondents across economic groups **(Table 5)**.

Economic location is similarly a major factor associated with exclusion of citizens in terms of document possession **(Table 5)**. It plays a decisive role in birth certificate possession, both at the individual and household level, as shown in Tables 6 and 7, respectively. Among the poorest respondents, fewer than one in every four have an official birth certificate, and six in every 10 have none at all, while over half of the well-to-do respondents possess a birth certificate. This gap extends to entire families – only about one in every 10 poor households said every adult member had a birth certificate, compared with one in every three among the rich.

Parental documentation follows the same pattern **(Table 8)**, with poor households far more likely to report that parents lack educational or identity documents. For example, over eight of every 10 poor respondents say their mother has no SSC certificate, compared to just over two of every five in rich households. This may be because older generations in poorer households often had limited access to formal education and fewer opportunities to obtain official identification.

The study further reveals the overall extent of document absence **(Table 9)**. More than half of respondents do not possess a passport, one in five do not possess both a passport and a caste certificate, and 5% have none of the key documents listed.

State-level variations

Table 10 reveals striking State-level differences in overall document unavailability. Uttar Pradesh stands out sharply, with nearly three in five respondents lacking the required documents, followed by Delhi, where over a quarter face the same issue.

The significant gaps in document possession, especially birth certificates, across caste and class lines, raise serious concerns about the EC's decision to make them mandatory for voter verification. Among marginalised castes and poorer households, large sections of the population either never had such documents issued or rely on informal records that may not find acceptance.

Public perception

Even without formal information about the social profile of possible exclusions, respondents are aware of who is going to be excluded.

When respondents were asked who might be most affected if birth certificates became mandatory **(Table 11)**, illiterate people and the elderly topped the list, each cited by over two in every five respondents. The poor, rural residents, and migrants were also seen as particularly vulnerable, along with smaller proportions among Muslims, SCs, and STs.

Table 12 indicates that concerns about wrongful exclusion are widespread. Close to half (45%) the respondents believe that genuine voters may be removed from the rolls during the verification process under SIR, while only a quarter think this will not happen. This indicates a significant level of public anxiety that the exercise, if it insists on the documents asked in the Bihar exercise, could disenfranchise eligible citizens.

Table 13 indicates that confidence in the EC's ability to ensure inclusivity is moderate. Just over a quarter of respondents said they were "very confident" that all eligible voters would be retained on the rolls, while one-sixth expressed doubts and said that they had "not much" confidence and nearly one in every 10 had no confidence at all. These figures suggest that while many still trust the EC to manage the process fairly, a sizeable share of the public remains unconvinced.

When one analyses the data from the 2019 NES survey, the 2024 NES survey, and the 2025 documentation study, we see a consistent decline in high trust in the EC across all six States and a corresponding increase in the numbers of those who do not trust the EC.

In Uttar Pradesh, for instance, the proportion of respondents expressing high trust fell sharply from 56% in 2019 to just 21% in the present study, while "no trust" rose to nearly one-third. Kerala saw a similar trend, with high trust dropping from 57% to 35% over the period, accompanied by increases in moderate and no trust. High trust is replaced by growing numbers who express only moderate trust **(Table 14)**.

The findings from the Lokniti study point out to the challenges associated with the way in which current exercise of voter verification is contemplated. Citizen access to documents is a complex issue.

Onus on citizens

Verification process puts the onus on citizens for showing the documents but ensuring that citizens will be able to smoothly and routinely access various documents is the responsibility of government. As this analysis has shown, there is a marked social character to non-possession of documents leading to possible exclusion of marginalised sections.

As an immediate consequence, the EC is likely to take a hit in terms of popular trust and confidence in it. This is a very serious consequence because the high legitimacy of the EC is an important part of elections being seen as free and fair.

Moreover, this exclusion is not merely in terms of dropping the names of the poor and the backward from electoral rolls. At a more serious level, and as an unintended consequence of SIR, a stark fact has come to light – the less privileged members of society stand the risk of being pushed to the status of doubtful citizens in every sense. As governments more and more tends to use resources for the benefit of the poor and backward, the possible downgrading of those same sections for non-possession of citizenship documents makes them all the more vulnerable and helpless.

(Suhas Palshikar taught political science and is chief editor of Studies in Indian Politics*; Krishangi Sinha is a researcher with Lokniti-CSDS; Sandeep Shastri is vice president (Bangalore), Nitte Education Trust and national coordinator, Lokniti Network; Sanjay Kumar is professor and co-director, Lokniti-CSDS)*

Paper barriers

Who stands to lose in the special intensive revision (SIR) process of voter rolls and how does it affect citizen trust in the Election Commission?

Table 1: Availability of documents by caste

Document	Caste			
	Scheduled Caste (SC)	Scheduled Tribe (ST)	Other Backward Caste (OBC)	General
Aadhaar card	98	99	100	99
PAN card	58	83	79	90
Passport	5	4	16	22
10th class certificate	46	51	64	72
Domicile certificate	48	44	54	56
Caste certificate	58	80	61	32
NRC document	95	99	96	95
Forest right certificate	7	9	9	6
Family registration certificate	33	26	33	28
Land/ house allotment certificate	31	59	41	51
Government-issued identity card or pension order (Central/State/PSU)	28	43	37	42
Government/PSU identity documents issued before July 1, 1987	9	7	9	16

Note: *All figures have been rounded off. Others did not know. The figures will not add up to 100 as the figures represent only the respondents who said "Yes" to having the mentioned documents.*

Table 2: Issuance of birth certificate by caste

Birth certificate	Caste			
	SC	ST	OBC	General
Yes, I have it	25	39	33	40
I have a birth certificate, but not from an official authority	10	8	13	10
No, I do not have one	61	52	52	47

Note: *All figures have been rounded off. Others did not know.*

Table 3: Members above the age of 18 years have birth certificate by caste

Members of family 18+ birth certificate	Caste			
	SC	ST	OBC	General
Yes, all have	13	15	17	23
Yes, but only a few	37	61	52	51
None have	39	15	23	20

Note: *All figures are in percentages and have been rounded off.*

Table 4: Possession of documents by parents by caste

Documents	Caste			
	SC	ST	OBC	General
Birth certificate of mother	85	70	69	63
Birth certificate of father	79	62	64	60
SSC certificate of mother	84	81	61	56
SSC certificate of father	76	75	54	48
Caste certificate of mother	71	41	55	61
Caste certificate of father	60	33	49	60

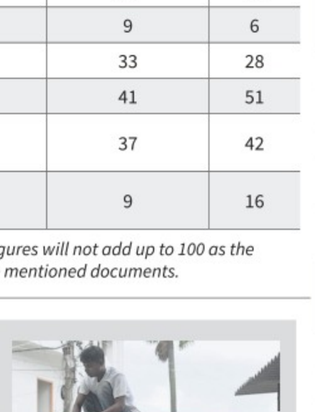
Note: *All figures are in percentages and have been rounded off. The figures represent only the respondents who said "No" to having the mentioned documents.*

Table 5: Availability of documents by economic class

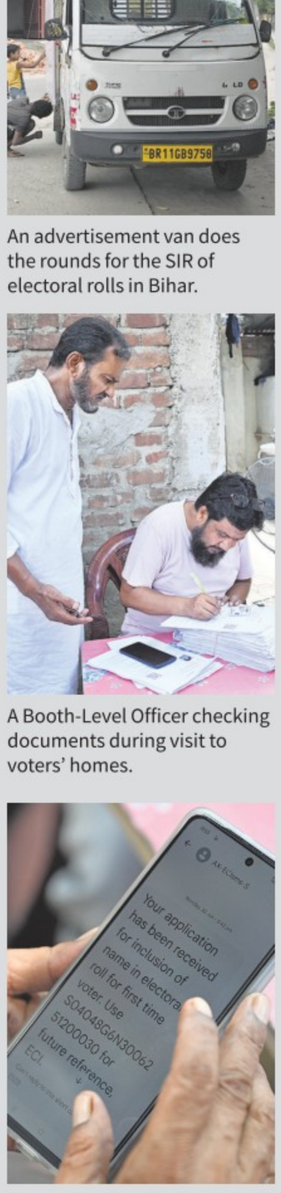
Document	Economic class			
	Poor	Lower	Middle	Rich
Aadhaar card	99	100	99	100
PAN card	66	80	89	95
Passport	4	10	21	47
10th class certificate	39	61	79	91
Domicile certificate	35	52	62	74
Caste certificate	41	50	53	61
NRC document	98	94	96	88
Forest right certificate	9	7	7	3
Family registration certificate	24	32	32	40
Land/ house allotment certificate	42	43	47	43
Government-issued identity card or pension order (Central/ State/PSU)	36	35	43	44
Government/ PSU identity documents issued before July 1, 1987	7	13	16	18

Note: *All figures have been rounded off. Others did not know. The figures will not add up to 100 as the figures represent only the respondents who said "Yes" to having the mentioned documents.*

An advertisement van does the rounds for the SIR of electoral rolls in Bihar.



A Booth-Level Officer checking documents during visit to voters' homes.


Your application has been received for inclusion of name in electoral roll for first time voter. Use S04048G6N30062 51200030 for future reference.
ECI

A voter receives a message after completing his application process. PHOTOS: SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Table 6: Issuance of birth certificate by economic class

Birth certificate	Economic class			
	Poor	Lower	Middle	Rich
Yes, I have it	23	30	43	53
I have a birth certificate, but not from an official authority	11	12	12	7
No, I do not have one	61	55	43	40

Note: *All figures have been rounded off. Others did not know.*

Table 7: Members above the age of 18 have birth certificate by economic class

Family members aged 18 or above with birth certficate	Economic class			
	Poor	Lower	Middle	Rich
Yes, all have	12	16	22	33
Yes, but only a few	44	49	55	53
None have	35	26	17	10

Note: *All figures are in percentages and have been rounded off. Others did not know.*

Table 8: Unavailablitity of parents' documents by economic class

Documents	Economic class			
	Poor	Lower	Middle	Rich
Birth certificate of mother	84	71	58	60
Birth certificate of father	81	66	54	56
SSC certificate of mother	86	68	51	43
SSC certificate of father	80	59	43	36
Caste certificate of mother	73	58	51	52
Caste certificate of father	65	52	47	49

Note: *All figures are in percentages and have been rounded off. The figures represent only the respondents who said "No" to having the mentioned documents.*

Table 9: Overall unavailability of documents

Document	%
No passport	52
No passport & no caste certificate	22
No passport, no caste certificate & no SSC	13
No document	5

Note: *Others did not have passport, caste certificate, SSC, BPL, birth certificate, domicile certificate, family certificate, any pension or govt. document by Central or State government or PSU, State or Central identity card issued before July 1, 1987, forest right certificate, land/ house allotment certificate.*

Table 10: Unavailability of documents by State

State	%
Assam	1
Madhya Pradesh	11
Uttar Pradesh	58
West Bengal	3
Delhi	28

Note: *All figures are in percentage.*

Table 11: Most affected if birth certificates become mandatory

Category	%
Illiterate people	42
Elderly people	42
Poor	41
Rural populations	26
Migrants	22
Muslims	15
SCs	8
Young voters	7
STs	7
OBCs	7
No one	3

Note: *Figures have been rounded off. The figures represent only those who said "yes" to the category of people who will be affected.*

Table 12: Genuine voters would get removed during SIR process

Genuine voters may get removed	%
Yes	45
No	25

Note: *Figures have been rounded off.*

Table 13: Level of confidence in EC that it will ensure inclusivity

Confidence level	%
Very confident	27
Somewhat confident	33
Not much	16
Not at all	9

Note: *Figures have been rounded off. Others did not know.*

Table 14: Public trust in EC over the years

States	Level of trust								
	High trust			Moderate trust			No trust		
	2019 Post poll	2024 Post poll	2025 Survey	2019 Post poll	2024 Post poll	2025 Survey	2019 Post poll	2024 Post poll	2025 Survey
Assam	47	34	35	32	21	36	6	10	17
Kerala	57	58	35	25	30	34	10	10	24
Madhya Pradesh	57	25	17	33	38	40	6	22	22
Uttar Pradesh	56	43	21	25	31	35	11	16	31
West Bengal	48	53	42	30	31	38	11	9	8
Delhi	60	43	21	20	30	44	11	21	30

Note: *All figures are in percentage and have been rounded off. Others did not know.*

Method note for the survey

The study was conducted by Lokniti-CSDS in NCR-Delhi and five States, namely Assam, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal.

In each State, five districts were purposively selected, keeping in mind the rural and urban population in each of these five districts. In each of the five districts, four locations were selected keeping in mind the class profile of the people living in these locations, so that the sample has adequate representation of people from lower, middle- and upper-income classes.

At each location, 25 face-to-face interviews were conducted with those respondents who were 18 years or more.

Respondents at sampled locations were selected following a random walk procedure. Field investigators identified a landmark such as school, hospital, or any monument and started to select households from there. They did interviews in such a way that the entire location was covered, leaving a few houses between the sampled households. The method comes very close to simple random selection of the voters for the interview.

Total sample for which data have been analysed is 3,054; roughly 500 interviews in each State. The sample represented people belonging to different social profiles – 44% were women, 48% urban voters, 18% Dalits, 7% Adivasi, 12% Muslims, and 5% Christians (Christians in Kerala sample).

From Page One

SC can't treat Governors as 'aliens', says Centre

The Centre's law officer noted that "the Governors possess democratic legitimacy through indirect democratic representation". He argued that the nature of gubernatorial assent has a unique duality of character. Though the assent is given by an apex executive authority, the act itself is legislative in nature.

The note asked whether the court could invoke Article 142 and assume powers under Article 200 and 201 to grant deemed assent to 'delayed' State Bills. "The alleged failure, inaction, or error of one organ does not and cannot authorise another organ to assume powers that the Constitution has not vested in it. Article 142 does not empower the court to create a concept of 'deemed assent', turning the constitutional and legislative process on its head," Mr. Mehta said.

Moreover, the Union government said that directing the President to consult the Supreme Court under Article 143 in case of any doubts about State Bills would effectively turn a constitutional prerogative into a judicial mandate.

In its written submissions, Tamil Nadu, represented by senior advocate P. Wilson, insisted that questions on the powers of the President and the Governors as regards State Bills have already been settled by the April 8 judgment, adding that entertaining the Reference now would erode the finality attached to Supreme Court judgments under Article 141 of the Constitution.

Trump says Kyiv should make a deal to end war

Monday's talks will be held in the White House Oval Office, where Mr. Trump and U.S. Vice-President J.D. Vance gave the Ukrainian President a brutal public dressing-down in February, accusing him of ingratitude.

Mr. Zelenskyy said that he supported the idea of a three-way meeting. Kyiv's European allies welcomed Mr. Trump's efforts but vowed to back Ukraine and tighten sanctions on Russia

Mr. Trump met with Mr. Putin for nearly three hours in Alaska on Friday at the first U.S.-Russia summit since Moscow launched its invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. "It was determined by all that the best way to end the horrific war between Russia and Ukraine is to go directly to a peace agreement... and not a mere ceasefire agreement..," Mr. Trump posted on Truth Social.

In an interview with Fox News, Mr. Trump signalled that he and Mr. Putin had discussed land transfers and security guarantees for Ukraine, and had "largely agreed".

Asked what he would advise Mr. Zelenskyy to do, Mr. Trump said, "Gotta make a deal... Look, Russia is a very big power, and they're not."

Mr. Zelenskyy has underlined the need for security guarantees for Kyiv, to deter Russia from invading again in the future.

India lauds 'progress' made to end conflict

However, the Ministry declined to comment on Mr. Trump's claims that India had stopped being an "oil client" for Russia. Indian oil refining PSUs, however, have continued to purchase up to 2 million bpd (barrels per day) of Russian oil, and said that they had no instructions from the government to "buy or not to buy" from Russia, even after the U.S. tariffs were announced.

In an interview to U.S.'s *Fox News* after the talks, Mr. Trump said that he would consider the question of the penalty tariffs on Russian oil in "two or three weeks", possibly indicating the August 27 deadline could pass for India without an implementation of punitive 25% tariffs over and above the 25% reciprocal tariffs.

When asked specifically about tariffs on China which imports even more oil than India, Mr. Trump said that "because of what happened today, I think I don't have to think about that now," adding, "I think you know, the meeting [with Putin] went very well".

China's Foreign Minister arriving for border talks

Mr. Modi's China trip will be his first since the June 2020 Galwan clashes in eastern Ladakh between Indian and Chinese military personnel upended bilateral ties. China has welcomed the Prime Minister's participation in the SCO summit in Tianjin.

Lieutenant-General Rahul R. Singh, Deputy Chief of Army Staff (Capability Development and Sustenance), said in July that China had provided Pakistan with "live inputs" on Indian military deployment during the operation that was a response to a deadly terror attack in Pahalgam the previous month.

Part of the agenda of emerging Sino-India cooperation has been spelt out by the spokespersons of the Indian and Chinese Foreign Ministries this week.

On Thursday, MEA Randhir Jaiswal said that India has been in talks with China "to facilitate the resumption of border trade through all the designated trade points - namely, Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand, Shipki La Pass in Himachal Pradesh, and Nathu La Pass in Sikkim."

Some parties did not check voter list at right time: EC

Commission says utmost transparency is the hallmark of electoral roll preparation; it says parties did not point out errors to officials; the statement comes ahead of Rahul Gandhi's yatra in Bihar

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) said in a statement here on Saturday that utmost transparency was the hallmark of electoral roll preparation as per law, rules and guidelines.

In an apparent response to the Congress's charges of major anomalies in the preparation of voters' lists across the country prior to the 2024 Lok Sabha election, the EC said it seemed that some political parties and their booth-level agents (BLAs) did not examine the electoral rolls at the appropriate time and did not point out errors, if any, to Sub-Divisional Magistrates/Electoral Registration Officers, District Election Officers or Chief Election Officers.

The Opposition INDIA bloc had announced a series of protests against the special intensive revision (SIR) of voters' lists and alleged malpractices in preparing the list. The ECI will address a press conference on Sunday to clear the air.

> The appropriate time to raise any issue with the electoral rolls would have been during the claims and objections period of that phase... Had these issues been raised at the right time through the right channels, it would have enabled the concerned SDM/EROs to correct the mistakes, if genuine
>
> ELECTION COMMISSION

Meanwhile, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi will launch "Voter Adhikar Yatra" in Bihar on Sunday.

In the statement, the EC said political parties were involved at each stage of their preparation. It said appropriate time and opportunity are given to electors and political parties to rectify errors, if any.

"Utmost transparency is the hallmark of electoral roll preparation as per law, rules and guidelines," the poll body said.

"The appropriate time to raise any issue with the electoral rolls would have been during the claims and objections period of that phase, which is precisely the objective behind sharing the electoral rolls with all political parties and the candidates. Had these issues been raised at the right time through the right channels, it would have enabled the concerned SDM/ EROs to correct the mistakes, if genuine, before those elections...," it said.

Reacting to the EC's press statement, Congress general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal, in an X post, accused the poll body of "crossing all limits of shamelessness by shrugging all its responsibilities in the face of grave allegations of vote theft and mass rigging".

"The onus on catching the scale and volume of their vote theft cannot be on political parties and its BLAs," Mr. Venugopal said.

He asked why the EC took down already uploaded machine-readable versions of the draft SIR rolls, why it wants CCTV footage deleted within 45 days and why it submitted before the apex court that it was not bound to disclose the reason behind deleting 65 lakh names in the Bihar SIR process. "...the Chief Election Commissioner and other ECs must come clean on why they still refuse to provide parties with machine-readable electoral rolls," he added.

Rahul Gandhi's 'Vote Adhikar Yatra' will be historic: Cong. leader

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

Akhilesh Prasad Singh

Ahead of the 16-day "Vote Adhikar Yatra" by the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, beginning Sunday from Sasaram in Bihar, former Congress State unit president Akhilesh Prasad Singh, MP, on Saturday said the yatra would be historic and would boost the morale of the grand alliance leaders in contesting the Assembly election due in October-November.

Mr. Gandhi is expected to tour 25 of the 38 districts in the State with breaks on August 20, 25 and 31 before ending the yatra here with a rally on September 1. The aim is to raise awareness of the right to vote, Mr. Singh told presspersons.

Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav and other Opposition leaders will be present at the flagging off of the yatra.The yatra will cover about 1,300 km, Mr. Singh said.

While making remarks on the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls across the poll-bound State, the he further said, "The anomalies in the exercise are being exposed every day by different news media."'Before this exercise was to begin in Bihar, leaders of about 20-22 political parties had gone to meet the Election Commissioner of India but even at that time he had told us that about 20% of the voters' names would be deleted from the [voters] list," Mr. Singh said while claiming that "except two parties BJP and JD(U), almost all political parties had opposed SIR of electoral rolls exercise, which means they were supporting it from the backdoor".

Earlier Mr. Gandhi had said, "We are waging a direct fight against vote *chori* [theft] from Bihar with 'Voter Adhikar Yatra' and we will ensure a clean voters list across the country."

Major irregularities in 2024 Maharashtra Assembly polls, says independent report

Purnima Sah
MUMBAI

Vote for Democracy (VFD), a civic action group, on Saturday released a constituency-level analysis of the 288 Assembly constituencies in Maharashtra, alleging anomalies in the November 2024 election.

The report, "Dysfunctional ECI and weaponisation of India's election system", draws on official data from the Election Commission and the Chief Electoral Officer and accounts from polling staff and voters, raising questions about transparency and accountability.

The civic group is guided by M.G. Devasahayam, former IAS officer and coordinator of Citizens' Commission on Elections; Pyara Lal Garg, former Dean, Panjab University; Madhav Deshpande, specialist in computer software and architecture; and Harish Karnick, former Professor, Computer Science, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur.

Making it count: People queue up for voting at a school in Dadar during the Maharashtra Assembly election last year. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Systemic vulnerabilities

It notes that in the November 2024 polls, Maharashtra recorded a sudden late-night surge in turnout. At 5 p.m., voter turnout stood at 58.22%, but by midnight, it had risen to 66.05%, a jump of 7.83%, which amounted to about 48 lakh extra votes. The sharpest increases were recorded in Nanded, Jalgaon, Hingoli, Solapur, Beed, and Dhule, where double-digit spikes were observed, though historically such late surges have been minimal. Some booths reportedly added more than 600 voters after 5 p.m., which would have implied an additional 10 hours of polling that did not occur in reality.

The report says several seats were decided by very narrow margins, with 25 seats won by fewer than 3,000 votes and 69 by fewer than 10,000, suggesting that even small anomalies could have changed outcomes.

The study highlights erratic changes in the electoral rolls between the May 2024 Lok Sabha election and the November 2024 Assembly election. In just six months, the rolls expanded by more than 46 lakh voters, concentrated across 12,000 polling booths in 85 constituencies, predominantly in areas where the BJP had lost in the Lok Sabha election.

Official records also showed discrepancies, with the EC reporting over 9.64 crore voters on August 30, 2024, while the CEO of Maharashtra reported 9.53 crore for the same date. Within weeks, these numbers fluctuated sharply, with a sudden increase of over 16 lakh voters between October 15 and October 30, 2024.

The report further observes sudden and disproportionate vote surges that benefited specific parties. In the Lok Sabha election, the BJP averaged about 88,713 votes per Assembly segment, whereas in the Assembly elections in November, the average rose to 1,16,064 votes per seat, reflecting a sudden gain of 28,000 votes per seat without corresponding demographic growth. For example, in Kamthi, the Congress vote remained at about 1.35 lakh while the BJP gained 56,000 votes, and in Karad (South), the tally rose by 41,000 votes in six months, a change not seen in five years.

The report alleges procedural and technical concerns, including the presence of routers near polling stations, sudden power cuts during counting, late arrival of EVMs at strong rooms, failure of CCTV surveillance, and breaches of strong rooms.

Education Minister of Jharkhand Ramdas Soren passes away

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

Ramdas Soren, Jharkhand Education Minister and Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leader, who had suffered a head injury after a fall in the bathroom on August 2, passed away in a private hospital in Delhi on Friday night.

Ramdas had been admitted to Tata Motors Hospital in Jamshedpur where doctors found blood clotting in his brain and referred him to Delhi.

The Minister was then taken to Delhi by an air ambulance.

Chief Minister Hemant Soren and several other leaders condoled the death of the three-time-MLA.

The 62-year-old is survived by his wife, Surajmani Soren, three sons and a daughter.

Congress calls for discussion paper on GST 2.0, seeks a 'good and simple tax'

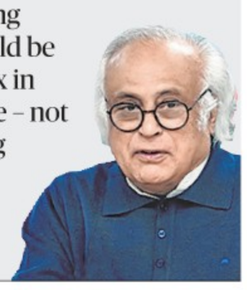
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his Independence Day speech, said that the Union government would rationalise the Goods and Services Tax regime, the Opposition Congress on Saturday demanded an official discussion paper on "GST 2.0" for a wider debate.

Party general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh said in a statement here on Saturday that the reform should be towards a "good and simple tax" and not for suppression of growth.

Mr. Ramesh said the Congress had been calling for a radically transformed GST 2.0. "This was a key pledge in its manifesto for the 2024 Lok Sabha elections," he said adding that Mr. Modi seems to have finally woken up to the fact that economic growth will simply not accelerate unless this transformation takes place and increases private consumption and private investment.

> The Congress demands an official discussion paper on GST 2.0 very soon so that there can be an informed and wider debate on this pressing national issue. GST 2.0 should be truly a Good and Simple Tax in letter, spirit, and compliance – not like the Growth Suppressing Tax it has become
>
> JAIRAM RAMESH
> Congress general secretary (communications)



"The Indian National Congress demands an official discussion paper on GST 2.0 very soon so that there can be an informed and wider debate on this vital and pressing national issue. GST 2.0 should be truly a Good and Simple Tax (GST) in letter, spirit, and compliance - not like the Growth Suppressing Tax (GST) it has become," Mr. Ramesh said.

He said the spirit of GST has been vitiated by an increased number of rates and the granting of multiple exemptions over the past seven years. "The structure also seems to have facilitated evasion. There must be a drastic reduction in the number of rates. Simplification of the rate structure is essential but must be done in a manner that minimises revenue uncertainty to States and also eliminates the classification disputes that have become so common. The GST compensation cess expires on March 31, 2026. This must be extended to offset any revenue uncertainty from the rationalisation of the rate structure," he said.

Mr. Ramesh said the widespread concerns of Micro Small and Medium Establishments must be addressed meaningfully. He demanded that the States be incentivised to move towards the introduction of State-level GST to cover electricity, alcohol, petroleum, and real estate.

All India Professionals' Congress chairman Praveen Chakravarty alleged that the Confederation of Indian Industry had asked industrialists to praise Mr. Modi for admitting that GST was a disaster. In social media, Mr. Chakravarty said the CII provided its members tweet drafts for industrialists to post, with clear instructions.

'No foreigner in Bihar SIR list, Modi brings agenda of Partition'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

It is as if the govt. is trying to finish the incomplete agenda of Partition, says CPI(ML) chief

Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) general secretary Dipankar Bhattacharya has welcomed the interim order of the Supreme Court on the special intensive revision (SIR) of the voters' list in Bihar.

He said the Election Commission (EC) was forced to back off from its stand on the matter, and hoped that the poll body would ensure transparency in preparing voters' lists and provide details for the reasons of the omission of voters from the draft list.

Countering Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement on Independence Day that illegal immigration was threatening the country's demography, Mr. Bhattacharya said the SIR exercise in Bihar did not bring out a single case of illegal immigrants in the State. "PM Modi gave his longest Independence Day speech, but the important point is that the theme of the Independence Day is now being reduced to Partition. It is as if the government is trying to finish the incomplete agenda of Partition," he said.

He maintained that out of the 65 lakh voters who had been disenfranchised, no one was a foreign national. He asked how the Centre concluded on the number of foreign nationals entering India illegally, when there has been no Census since 2011.

"They have created a tone of terror in the country," he said.

INBRIEF

Shubhanshu Shukla set for India return after ISS mission

Astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla is set to return to India on Sunday after his historic visit to the International Space Station (ISS) and is eager to share his experiences as ISRO eyes its maiden human spaceflight in 2027. Mr. Shukla, who has been in the U.S., training for the Axiom-4 mission to ISS for the past year, is expected to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and travel to Lucknow, his hometown. He is expected to take part in the National Space Day celebrations on August 22-23 in New Delhi. Mr. Shukla and his back-up astronaut, Prashanth Nair, participated in the Independence Day celebrations at the Indian Consulate in Houston on Friday. PTI

Manipur Governor Bhalla gets additional charge of Nagaland

Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla was on Saturday given additional charge as the Nagaland Governor, according to a communique issued by the President's office. The vacancy had arisen due to the demise of Nagaland Governor La Ganesan. "Consequent upon the demise of Shri La Ganesan, Governor of Nagaland, the President of India has appointed Shri Ajay Kumar Bhalla, Governor of Manipur, to discharge the functions of the Governor of Nagaland, in addition to his own duties," the note read. Ganesan, 80, died on Friday while undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Chennai. PTI

SIT to probe custodial death of SC law student: Bombay HC

The Bombay High Court on Thursday directed the Maharashtra Director-General of Police to set up a Special Investigation Team (SIT) within one week to probe the custodial death of Somnath Suryawanshi, a final-year law student and a member of a Scheduled Caste family. In her petition, Suryawanshi's mother alleged that her son was tortured during his illegal detention following a protest in Parbhani on December 11, 2024, and authorities sought to cover up his death as a cardiac incident. The Division Bench comprising Justice Vibha Kankanwadi and Justice Sanjay A. Deshmukh observed that the Inquiry Committee set up by the State will be dissolved.

Bengal teacher who lost job after SC verdict dies of stroke

A teacher who lost his job after the Supreme Court's recent cancellation of nearly 26,000 teaching and non-teaching appointments died on Friday allegedly following a 'stress-induced' stroke and brain haemorrhage. Subal Soren, 35, was a teacher at a State-run school in West Bengal's Paschim Medinipur. "Subal Sir had no prevailing ailments. He suffered a stroke from the unbearable mental agony of having lost his job," Suvojit Das, a spokesperson for a teachers' forum told *The Hindu*. On April 3, the apex court upheld the Calcutta High Court's cancellation of job appointments from 2016, citing a 'vitiated and tainted' recruitment process by the West Bengal School Service Commission.

Heavy rain in Maharashtra kills five, floodwater cuts off villages

Mumbai's suburbs among the worst affected as rain causes waterlogging, disrupts rail and bus transport; civic body urges residents to stay indoors; IMD warns of intense rainfall in the capital, and the northern and central regions of the State

Purnima Sah
MUMBAI

Five people were killed in two rain-related incidents in Maharashtra on Saturday.

Heavy rain battered Mumbai and its suburbs, with some parts recording more than 200 mm of rainfall in the early hours, inundating low-lying neighbourhoods and disrupting suburban train services.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert for Raigad, and orange alert for Mumbai, Thane and Ratnagiri, warning of heavy to very heavy rainfall.

In the eastern Mumbai suburb of Vikhroli, two people were killed and two injured when soil and boulders from a nearby hillock fell on a hut at Jankalyan Society in Varsha Nagar around 2.30 a.m.

Emergency response teams, including the fire brigade, police, and Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) staff, reached the site and shifted other residents to safer locations, said a BMC official.

The BMC appealed to residents to avoid stepping out unless absolutely necessary as the heavy rain is likely to continue.

City in limbo: Rain submerged many roads in Mumbai on Saturday. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Ten gates of the Lower Terna dam were opened, releasing 3,800 cusecs of water

In Nanded district, three persons were killed and several villages got cut off due to rising floodwaters. In Latur, an alert was sounded for residents living along the banks of the Terna and Manjara rivers following heavy rain and the release of water from dams. The IMD issued a red alert for Latur district on Saturday afternoon, warning of heavy to very heavy showers.

Officials said that 10 gates of the Lower Terna dam were opened on Saturday morning, releasing more than 3,800 cusecs of water into the Terna. The discharge was reduced in the afternoon when six gates were closed. The Manjara dam at Dhanegaon has reached 87% storage capacity.

Early on Saturday, Mumbai got extremely heavy rain, with the suburbs being the worst-affected. The Marol Fire Station recorded 207 mm, Nariyalwadi School in Santacruz 202 mm, Tagore Nagar School in Vikhroli 196 mm and the BP Office in Vikhroli 195 mm. Localities such as Vikhroli, Ghatkopar, Bhandup, Andheri, Kings Circle, Malad and Goregaon were waterlogged.

Transport disruptions

Train services on both Central and Western Railway were disrupted as water accumulated on the tracks in Dadar, Kurla, Sion, Chunabhatti and Tilak Nagar, among other stations. Bus operations of the Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST) undertaking were affected, with several services being diverted from flooded areas including Aarey Colony and Malad Subway.

Civic officials said pumping operations were under way at multiple spots, and teams had been deployed to clear tree falls and attend to complaints of flooding.

Soaked city

According to the IMD, Vikhroli recorded the highest rainfall at 248.5 mm between 8.30 a.m. on Friday and 5.30 a.m. on Saturday, followed by Santacruz at 232.5 mm, Sion at 221 mm and Juhu at 208 mm, while Colaba in South Mumbai recorded just 70 mm in the same period.

The average rainfall between August 15 at 8 a.m. and August 16 at 4 a.m. was 99.61 mm in central Mumbai, 142.8 mm in eastern Mumbai and 144.57 mm in western Mumbai.

Between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday, the average rainfall stood at 51.63 mm in the central parts of the city, 13.59 mm in the east and 19.09 mm in the west.

Two dead, 95 injured during *dahi handi* celebrations

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Two persons, one a teenager, died during *dahi handi* contests marking the Janmashtami celebrations in Mumbai on Saturday, while 95 people sustained injuries across the city, officials said.

Jagmohan Shivkiran Chaudhari (32) fell to death while tying a rope for the *dahi handi* (pot of curd) from the first-floor window grille of his house in Maharashtra Nagar, Mankhurd. He was rushed to Shatabdi Hospital, Govandi, where doctors declared him brought dead.

In Andheri, Rohan Mohan Valvi (14) collapsed while seated in a van during the festivities. He was first taken to a private hospital and later shifted to Rajawadi Hospital, Ghatkopar, where he was declared brought dead. An inquiry is under way by the local police.

By 9 p.m., civic data showed 95 participants of these contests were injured across Mumbai.

In total, 19 remain hospitalised, two in a critical condition, while 76 have been discharged.

The participants, called "Govindas", form a human pyramid to reach and break the *dahi handi* tied to a rope at a height during Janmashtami.

Director says screening of the trailer of *Bengal Files* disrupted in Kolkata

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

A political row erupted on Saturday during the launch of the trailer of the film *The Bengal Files* at a Kolkata hotel, with director Vivek Agnihotri alleging that the screening was stopped midway.

Kolkata Police personnel were seen at the event, and Mr. Agnihotri was seen arguing with them. "Why are you stopping the screening midway? If you had a problem, you could have told us in the morning," he was heard saying.

Stating that all permissions for the launch were obtained, Mr. Agnihotri told presspersons that the voice of a filmmaker was suppressed in the land of Satyajit Ray. "They have stopped a CBFC [Central Board of Film Certification]-approved trailer at a private place. This is nothing but dictatorship and fascism," the director said.

Frayed tempers: Director Vivek Agnihotri reacts after the event was allegedly stopped by the police in Kolkata on Saturday. PTI

Mr. Agnihotri took to social media and said that the screening of the trailer of the film was "illegally stopped" on orders of "top authorities".

"First theatres, now even a private hotel. Who fears the truth of Hindu genocide? And why? Democracy is dead in Tagore & Vivekananda's land," he said.

There was no official response from the police over the incident.

According to the filmmaker, *The Bengal Files* deals with "genocide in Kolkata" during the 1940s. The trailer launch was scheduled for Saturday to mark Direct Action Day, when Kolkata witnessed communal riots.

'Creating divisions'

The Trinamool Congress leadership said that Mr. Agnihotri was making films that were politically motivated and aimed at creating divisions in society.

"Why has he not made a film 'Gujarat Files' and shown the riots, or 'Uttar Pradesh Files' or 'Manipur Files'. What he is indulging in is a drama in the interest of the BJP," Trinamool Congress leader Kunal Ghosh said.

BJP leader and Union Minister of State Sukanta Majumdar said that the event was abruptly cancelled, with a theatre chain openly admitting that it was acting under political pressure.

Results flipped after SC orders recount in sarpanch election

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The sarpanch election of Buana Lakhu village at Panipat in Haryana took an unexpected turn recently after the votes were recounted on the Supreme Court premises following the court's order.

The recount done under video surveillance in the Supreme Court turned the election result on its head. Mohit Kumar, who had been declared defeated in the previous result and later approached the apex court, won by a good margin.

The controversy began in November 2022 when Mr. Kumar's rival candidate, Kuldeep Singh, was declared the winner in the polls.

An Additional Civil Judge-cum-Election Tribunal in Panipat ordered a recount in April 2025.

However, the Punjab and Haryana High Court set aside the Tribunal's order in July, prompting Mr. Kumar to approach the Supreme Court.

On July 31, a three-judge Bench headed by Justice Surya Kant passed a unique order, calling for the EVMs used in all the booths during the sarpanch polls.

The Bench directed the Secretary General of the Supreme Court to nominate a Registrar to recount the votes on August 6.

It had asked the two candidates, their authorised agents and their lawyers to be present at the recount.

SUDOKU

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7	2							
				6			8	
9		8	4		5			
3			6		2			9
			8		9	4		1
	7			9				
							3	7
8		1			4	6		

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	1	5	7	2	3	4	9	6
2	3	6	9	5	4	7	1	8
9	7	4	6	8	1	3	2	5
7	8	1	3	9	2	6	5	4
6	5	9	4	1	8	2	3	7
3	4	2	5	6	7	1	8	9
1	6	8	2	4	5	9	7	3
4	2	3	8	7	9	5	6	1
5	9	7	1	3	6	8	4	2

Parents of R.G. Kar victim get Rashtrapati Bhavan's reply

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

After several attempts to reach out to President Droupadi Murmu, the parents of the doctor who was raped and murdered at R.G. Kar Medical College and Hospital received an email response from the Rashtrapati Bhavan asking them to liaise with the President's aide to express their plea.

"Kindly SAVE US. My daughter was brutally killed. My wife was brutally attacked on my daughter's first death anniversary by Kolkata Police," the parents' email said. In a response on August 14, officials of the President's Secretariat wrote that the petition has been forwarded to the President's aide.

NCERT module blames Congress for Partition; party says history distorted

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Opposition Congress alleged here on Saturday that a segment of a course module, "Culprits of Partition", designed by the NCERT for Classes 6 to 8 is a distortion of history. The module blamed the Congress and then All India Muslim League leader Mohammad Ali Jinnah for Partition.

The module is a supplementary resource and not part of regular textbooks. It is meant to be used for projects, posters, discussions, and debates

The NCERT module said: "Ultimately, on August 15, 1947, India was divided. But this was not the doing of any one person. There were three elements responsible for the Partition of India: Jinnah, who demanded it; second, the Congress, which accepted it; and third, Mountbatten [then Viceroy], who implemented it."

Pawan Khera

'Tear it up'

Asked about the module blaming the trio, Congress leader Pawan Khera said the book could be torn up if it did not mention the role of the Hindu Mahasabha.

"In 1938, the Hindu Mahasabha at their national convention in Gujarat first proposed that the Hindus and Muslims stay separately. In 1942, the coalition government in Sindh province, formed by the Hindu Mahasabha and the Muslim League, adopted a resolution," Mr. Khera said at a press conference. "If these dates are not mentioned in the NCERT book, it should be torn up."

Senior Congress leader and MP Manish Tewari said on social media that the two-nation theory that led to Partition pre-dated Partition by at least seven decades, if not more. "It had proponents on both sides – Muslims and Hindus," he said, providing quotes from various people such as V.D. Savarkar, Syed Ahmed Khan, Bhai Parmanand, and Lala Lajpat Rai. "The Partition was not the partition of India but of two of its provinces - Punjab and Bengal. The NCERT chapter on Partition Horrors is a case of distorting history," Mr. Tewari said, adding that in the North West Frontier Province, the Hindu Mahasabha members joined hands with Sardar Aurang Zeb Khan of the Muslim League to form a government in 1943.

The module released to mark "Partition Horrors Remembrance Day" said Partition happened due to wrong ideas. "The Muslim League, held a conference in Lahore in 1940. Its leader, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, said that Hindus and Muslims belonged to two different religious philosophies, social customs, and literatures," the module said.

(With PTI inputs)

Strengthen BSF along Bangladesh border: Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Congress leader and Leader of the Opposition in the 126-member Assam Assembly, Debabrata Saikia expressed concern over the pushback operations by the Assam police since May amid increasing cases of infiltration along Bangladesh border.

In a letter to Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday, Mr. Saikia urged the Minister to strengthen the Border Security Force, increase coordination protocols among security agencies, utilise technology-driven border surveillance systems more effectively, and engage with Bangladesh proactively to address the root causes of infiltration.

INBRIEF

SPIC mulls green ammonia export unit at Thoothukudi

Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation Ltd (SPIC) plans to set up a green ammonia export facility in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu. SPIC chairman Ashwin C Muthiah recently held discussions with Susanta Kumar Purohit, Chairperson, VO Chidambaranar Port Authority, on setting up the facility and enhancing berth facilities to handle 4.5 million tonne of green ammonia in the near future. No further information was shared on the project.

Kolkata Port opens first PPP terminal at Khidderpore Docks

The Kolkata Port opened the first public-private partnership (PPP) terminal at Khidderpore Docks, marking a shift in the transformation of the historic dock system. The Century Ports Ltd. Terminal, costing ₹190 crore, was commissioned by the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata . Equipped with a mobile harbour crane, a barge unloader, modern yard equipment and advanced terminal operating system, the facility has an initial handling capacity of 1.65 lakh TEUs. PTI

Table Space leases office space at ₹3.5 cr. monthly rent

Flexible workspace solution provider Table Space Technologies Private Ltd. has taken on lease 5,34,532 sq. ft. of office space at a monthly rent of ₹65 per sq. ft. amounting to about ₹3.5 crore at Intellion Park in Sector 59, Gurugram, according to the property registration document reviewed by real estate data analytics firm PropEquity. The transaction was registered recently between Table Space Technologies and Mikado Realtors Private Ltd.

Popular 'link in bio' service Linktree 'blocked' in India

The site, used by a range of users mainly on Instagram, has remained inaccessible over the last week; no knowledge of blocking, says official

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Popular with users: The service is used by companies and political parties as well. AP

Linktree, a leading "link in bio" service used by many firms, influencers and celebrities on Instagram, appeared to be blocked on several Internet service providers' networks over last week. It is unclear why the service has been blocked. The service is used by companies and political parties as well – the BJP's official Instagram page links out to a Linktree page.

An official at the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology indicated they had no knowledge of blocking order targeting the Australia-based firm's service.

The Department of Telecommunications, which manages the system to communicate blocking orders with telecom and Internet service providers, did not comment.

Instagram limits any links on posts made on the platform and users seeking to direct audiences outside the platform usually place a link in the bio, directing users in posts to click on the link. Sites such as Linktree help users with more than one link they want to point their audiences to.

Sapni G.K., a technology lawyer who spotted the blocking, said the "aggregation and curation service [is used] by innumerable creators," and this development was "detrimental to the many businesses and individual users of the service, harming their revenue and preventing conversion.

'Re-evaluate decision'

"Such unilateral blocks of services must be re-evaluated on grounds of economic as well as freedom of speech impacts. Greater transparency in the implementation of blocking under the IT Act will prevent the harm that unilateral blocking orders create."

Some users host own Linktree-esque pages – the Aam Aadmi Party has its own website with a ".bio" top level domain, for example – but the site is far and away the leader in the field, and was valued at $1.7 billion in 2022.

Linktree did not have an immediate response to query by *The Hindu* on its apparent blocking. The DoT regularly uploads court orders it receives for website blocking but no recently uploaded order appears to target a Linktree URL.

Security researcher Karan Saini found on Saturday the site remained blocked on networks belonging to Jio, Tikona, ACT Fibernet, Asianet, and other small providers, indicating a blocking order is behind the inaccessibility.

"Since blocking is enforced via law, compliance is almost always guaranteed across Internet service providers though they use different methods to implement censorship," Mr. Saini said adding when it comes to unblocking, ISPs across fail terribly."

Garment workers stitch shirts at a textile factory.

Engineering, textile exports continued to grow in July

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

Shipments of engineering, textile and apparel goods, which have a large number of MSME exporters, logged growth in July compared with last July.

Textiles exports registered 5.84% year-on-year growth in July while apparel exports climbed 4.75%.

Cumulative exports of textiles and apparel was 5.37% higher in July and those of textiles and apparel in April-July 2025 was 3.87% higher year-on-year.

Engineering goods exports in July stood at $10.43 billion as against $ 9.17 billion in July 2024, registering 13.75% growth.

For the April-July FY26, $39.33 billion engineering goods were exported, which is 6% more year-on-year.

Pankaj Chadha, chairman of EEPC India, said despite global trade scenario remaining cloudy, Indian engineering exports sector continued to demonstrate resilience. On the face of U.S. tariff-related uncertainties, there is greater focus on market and product diversification by engineering exporters.

50% of EV owners make trips of more than 500 km: report

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

India's EV charging sector is growing rapidly.

Overcoming range anxiety and price barrier, electric vehicle (EV) adoption and usage has been steadily rising in India, with 50% of owners making trips covering over 500 km, as per India Charging Report 2025 published by TATA.ev.

"EVs are now present in 65% of pin codes, 84% EVs are used as primary vehicles, running 1,600 km/month and driven 27 days/month, covering 95%+ roads, with 50% owners taking trips over 500 km," as per the report.

The report mentions significant improvement in road coverage, highway access, and consumer trust, while acknowledging persistent challenges such as charger reliability, fragmented discovery and payment issues. It also showcases TATA.ev's efforts to enhance accessibility and confidence in EV charging.

As per the report public chargers have grown four-fold to 24,000, with 91% National Highways having coverage within 50 km and 13 states/union territories have 100% coverage.

To make it convenient for owners, TATA.ev uses hexbin mapping and GPS data to identify charger gaps and optimise placement across cities and highways.

As per the report, top 25% of chargers are profitable and 18,000 chargers were added via partnerships in 15 months.

However, charger reliability was an issue with almost half of public chargers non-functional.

As far as TATA.ev is concerned, its .ev verified chargers, unified payment systems and dedicated call centre improved reliability and user support.

Sustainable mobility

Overall, the report underscores India's accelerating shift toward sustainable mobility, driven by technology, partnerships, and user-centric solutions, while emphasising the need to further improve reliability, interoperability, and convenience to aid clean mobility transition.

As per the report India's EV charging sector is growing rapidly through innovation and collaboration.

Initiatives like TATA.ev's verified chargers and mega charger network, demonstrate how quality and scale can go hand-in-hand.

Sustained collaboration between industry, government and consumers will be needed to create a seamless and inclusive electric mobility ecosystem supporting India's climate and mobility goals.

Geopolitics forced auto sector shift to anticipation mode: HARMAN's Helfrich

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Our vendors could procure Chinese rare earth elements licenses, says Markus Helfrich

> The tariff situation has a big impact. I mean we are all aware of things happening overnight. So, [these] things can change quickly
> MARKUS HELFRICH

Samsung Electronics-owned HARMAN Automotive's SVP, HR, Markus Helfrich said the broader environment comprising geopolitics, supply-chain issues, semi-conductor shortage, has heavily impacted the global automotive industry.

However, "these challenges have definitely made the industry more cautious, more resilient in sourcing and handling partner ecosystems, building location strategy, but also made the industry to be more strategic," he told *The Hindu*.

Mr. Helfrich also said, the industry, which was on a reaction mode, traditionally, has now entered an anticipation mode, because of the constantly-changing market environment.

Building resilience

"We've had to build resilience, in sourcing, in partner ecosystems, in location strategy. And we're not just reacting now, but we're anticipating where the industry is heading and preparing well in advance. The challenges have definitely made the industry more cautious, but also more strategic," he added.

According to Mr. Helfrich, the biggest impact on the industry so far has been the change, that is getting more "rapid" and increasingly "unpredictable."

"Things are coming without any notice today. If something happens with China or Taiwan tomorrow, we don't know. It is unpredictable. The tariff situation has a big impact. I mean we are all aware of things happening overnight. So, things can change quickly," he observed.

Neo magnet

Narrating a classic example of geopolitical tension faced by the industry recently, Krishna Kumar, managing director, HARMAN India said, the rare earth material shortage came up as a big issue globally and neo magnets, or neodymium, a type of strong magnet made from alloys of rare earth elements, came only from China.

"It is difficult for anyone to make a speaker without neo magnets, the best-in-class magnets, used in speakers for high-quality sound effects. China decided to revoke the licences of all providers of these magnets and asked them to reapply. Our vendors were fortunate to receive approvals from China, and we were able to procure the neodymium magnets. For some time there was huge tension, and it was a 100% geopolitical issue," commented Mr. Kumar.

Mr. Helfrich further said, earlier the industry had time to prepare and fix strategies, but now under constantly changing market dynamics, that mode was not feasible anymore.

Good network

"Today, what keeps you alive is a good network, global reach, international mindset, having a strong team that works together beyond any conflicts. To my understanding, that is the only thing which guarantees you to stay above any daily conflicts," concluded Mr. Helfrich, who was in Bengaluru as part of HARMAN Automotive's 14-month global cultural transformation programme designed to reimagine how the company's automotive teams think, collaborate, lead and grow.

Stamford-based Harman International was acquired by Samsung Electronics in 2017 for $8 billion. The acquisition was part of Samsung's strategy to expand into the automotive and connected car market and it gave the Korean electronic giant access to Harman's automotive and connected technologies, including brands like Harman Kardon, AKG.

Forex dealer Prithvi Exchange set for expansion

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

With demand for foreign currencies increasing from corporates, travellers and students studying in foreign universities, Chennai-based Prithvi Exchange, which is into selling foreign currencies, issuing forex cards and facilitating remittances abroad, is planning to expand store network to serve it's customers better.

The company has decided to open 15 more stores in two years to take it's total network to more than 45 outlets, MD Pavan Kumar Kavad told *The Hindu*.

While the firm will deepen presence in the South, it hopes to expand to more cities in the rest of India.

"In the last two years, we have doubled our store count from almost 15, we are now to 31 in the last quarter. We have similar plans of another 8-10 stores this year and probably another 5-6 stores in the next financial year also," Mr. Kavad said.

"We are looking at expanding to cities like Vizag, Trivandrum, Bhubaneswar and Jaipur. In existing cities, where we are present, we are doubling down over there," he said.

The company is looking at at least two centres in Mumbai this year and adding multiple stores in Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad.

"Chennai also has scope for another one or two more stores besides the six we already have. Bengaluru has scope for another 2-3 outlets," he said.

The company, which has licence from IRDAI for insurance broking, is seeing potential for growth in this business.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ, ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ
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ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ–ಕಾರವಾರ
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ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ: D-1/ENDO/07/2025-26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16/08/2025
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
(ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ಎಂಡೋಸಲ್ಫಾನ್ ಪುನರ್ ವಸತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2025–26ನೇ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ಪರಿತ್ತಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಹೊರ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಆರು ತಾಲೂಕುಗಳಾದ ಅಂಕೋಲಾ, ಕುಮಟಾ, ಹೊನ್ನಾವರ, ಭಟ್ಕಳ, ಶಿರಸಿ, ಸಿದ್ದಾಪುರದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಚಾರಿ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಘಟಕ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಾಣಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ/ಎಜೆನ್ಸಿಗಳಿಂದ ಈ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಮೂನೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ www.kppp.karnataka.gov.inನಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.
ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ – ವಿವರಗಳು: (1) ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ 2% ರೂ.1,70,460–00 (2) ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಡೌನಲೋಡ್ ಆರಂಭ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16–08–2025, ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 10.00 ಘಂಟೆಯಿಂದ (3) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: 25–08–2025, ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5–30 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ (4) ಇ–ಪ್ರೋಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: 04–09–2025 ರ ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5–30 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ (5) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: 06–09–2025 (6) ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: 85.23 ಲಕ್ಷ.
ಸಹಿ/– ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕು.ಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ಉ.ಕ ಕಾರವಾರ.
DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/390/25-26 dt. 16.08.2025

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(BELLARY THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919
ABSTRACT TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two cover system) (Through e-procurement portal only)
Item wise tenders are invited through e-procurement portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the following works:
(1) KPCL/2025-26/PS/WORK_INDENT 3335. Dated: 12.08.2025. **Name of the work:** Supply, Replacement of Hydraulic Hoses of WT and SCR Hydraulic Power Pack at CHP BTPS Unit - 1 & 2. **EMD: Rs.47,100/-.** Last Date for receipt of tenders: 28.08.2025 upto 17:00 hrs. Further details can be had from office of the **Executive Engineer (CHP) Mechanical-1. Mobile: +91 94482 90756.**
(2) KPCL/2025-26/EL/WORK_INDENT 3242/Call-2. Dated: 11.08.2025. **Name of the work:** Servicing of Vaccum Circuit Breakers of BHEL make at CHP BTPS Site. **EMD: Rs.6,860/-.** Last Date for receipt of tenders: 21.08.2025. Further details can be had from office of the **Executive Engineer (CHP) E-1. Mobile: +91 94482 90554.**
KPCL/BTPS, Kudithini, Bellary Dist., Karnataka - 583 152.

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited,
Upper Tunga Project Division, Shimoga
Ph : 08182-257189 Fax : 08182-254832
E-mail : eeutpsmg@gmail.com
Short Term PercentageTender Notification
(Through KPP Portal only)
1)No.EE/UTPDN/SMG/KNNL/PB-3/T.N.NO.13/2025-26/ Dated: 13.08.2025
2)No.EE/UTPDN/SMG/KNNL/PB-3/T.N.NO.14/2025-26/ Dated: 13.08.2025
3)No.EE/UTPDN/SMG/KNNL/PB-3/T.N.NO.15/2025-26/ Dated: 13.08.2025
On Behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bengaluru, the Under signed invites tender Through e- portal system from Eligible contractors coming Under Head of Account 4701 Upper Tunga Project
1) Apprx. Amount put to tender as per estimation **is Rs 169.35, 324.94, & 388.05 lakhs (Excluding GST)** (2) Pre Bid Meeting in EE,KNNL UTP Divn Smg office **on 20.08.2025 @ 11.00 a.m** (3) Last date for questions/clarifications regarding the tender : **20.08.2025 upto 5.30 p.m** (4) Date for Submission of filled tenders from: **13.08.2025 to 22.08.2025 upto 5.29 P.M.**
Further details on date of opening the Tender/Detail of work E.M.D. Amount/Terms and Conditions of the tender/Class of Contractor, Etc, can be obtained in the Tender Notification or from the office of the Under signed during office hours or in website **https:\\kppp.Karnataka.gov.in** For further details the office of the Undersigned can be contacted during office hours on phone No 08182-254832 Information can be obtained through **https://kppp.Karnataka.gov.in/**
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KNNL,U.T.P., Division, Shivamogga
DIPR/SMG/No.79-08 zenkar/2025-26

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Deputy Chief Information Officer-IT, 2nd Floor, Annex Building-2, N.R. Sqaure, Bengaluru - 560 002.
No: BBMP/2024-25/IND0112/Call2 Date: 16.08.2025
Tender Notification
The Deputy Chief Information Officer-IT, BBMP Department BBMP invites proposals through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal from eligible Companies for Procurement of Laptops for BBMP Welfare Department. All interested bidders shall submit their Technical and Commercial Bids electronically through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in).**
The Tender Schedule is as mentioned below:

Tender Notification No.	**BBMP/2024-25/IND0112/Call2**
Date from which Bid document is ready for download through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka **(http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) 16.08.2025 onwards**	
Date of Pre-Bid Meeting and Venue on **25.08.2025** at **15:00** Hrs Venue: Office of the Special Commissioner (Revenue and IT), BBMP Head Office Premises 1st Floor, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560 002	
Last date for seeking clarification if any through KPPP Portal on **25.08.2025** at **15:00** Hrs	
Last Date and Time for Uploading of Tender in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal platform on **15.09.2025** upto **17:00** Hrs	
Date and Time of Opening of Tenders: Technical Bid & Technical Evaluation on **16.09.2025** at **17:10** Hrs	
Date and Time of Opening of Tenders: Commercial Bid of Technically qualified bidders on **18.09.2025** at **11:00** Hrs (If Possible)	
Contact person for queries, Place of Opening of Tenders & Address for Communication: DCIO, BBMP IT Section, Telephone: 9480688000, Email: dcio-it@bbmp.gov.in, Office of the Deputy Chief Information Officer-IT, 2nd Floor Annex Building-2, N.R. Sqaure, Bengaluru - 560 002.	
EMD Amount: Rs.20,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Lakh only)	

Note: Completed tender shall be uploaded through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal System only in the manner described under instructions to Tenderers of RFP Documents on or before the last date & time stipulated.
Sd/-
Deputy Chief Information Officer-IT

Scientists turn *Escherichia coli* bacteria into a mercury sensor

The Hindu Bureau

In a step towards building cheap and programmable bioelectronic devices, Imperial College London and Zhejiang University researchers have shown in a new study that genetically engineered bacteria can be turned into self-powered chemical sensors that interface directly with electronics. According to the authors, these new platforms are possible today thanks to advances in synthetic biology and bioelectrochemistry.

Traditional biosensors, such as those based on enzymes, are often fragile, costly and/or have a slow response time in complex environments. Whole-cell biosensors, which use living microorganisms, can maintain and repair themselves and operate inside contaminated samples. However, in most conventional designs, these biosensors' output signals are in the optical range, which is harder to integrate into portable or field-deployable electronics.

In their study, the researchers built a modular biosensor that could sense the presence of specific compounds and convert that into an electrical signal, which is compatible with low-cost electronics.

The team used genetically engineered *Escherichia coli* bacteria as 'containers'. The microbes hosted three biosensor modules. The sensing module detected a target chemical through specific molecular regulators. The information processing module amplified or processed the signal. And the output module produced phenazines, nitrogen-containing organic molecules that can be measured using an electrochemical technique called voltammetry.

This way, the researchers built two biosensors. The first one could detect arabinose, a simple plant sugar often used in lab media. When a sample containing the sugar came in contact with the bacteria, the cells started producing phenazine-1-carboxylic acid. When this molecule touched the electrode, the latter produced a current that rose with sugar level. The signal appeared in roughly two hours.

The second sensor detected mercury ions in water. Because these ions are present only in trace quantities in real-world water, the researchers added a genetic amplifier to the *E. coli*. When the mercury bound with a protein called MerR, the meeting triggered the production of a polymerase that pushed the phenazine production pathway into overdrive. As a result, just 25 nanomoles of mercury – below the WHO safety limit – produced a readable current within three hours.

The team also demonstrated an 'AND' logic gate inside *E. coli*, so that it produced a signal only when two specific molecules were present together.

The team thus established a proof of concept of a living, electronically integrated biosensor capable of detecting compounds in its surroundings, processing the signals, and supplying data.

Connexin proteins rally arteries to nourish brain on demand

When the brain suddenly springs into action, its fuel system must respond within fractions of a second; new research shows how arteries coordinate across surprising distances to prevent lapses in attention or function

Anirban Mukhopadhyay

The brain is a guzzler, burning through about a fifth of our resting energy and keeping almost nothing in reserve. When a few thousand neurons suddenly burst into activity – e.g. when you spot a familiar face in the crowd – the fuel has to arrive immediately. Blood vessels open wide to let it in but they can't rob neighbouring regions to pay for the rush. The whole supply network must pitch in, and here lies the mystery: even the most distant arteries seem to respond almost instantly.

Scientists call this process neurovascular coupling. Neurons fire, nearby capillaries widen, and blood flow rises as arteries join in, pushing more fuel into the pipeline. Researchers have seen messages travelling 'upstream' from smaller vessels to bigger ones but the known chemical messengers moved too slowly to explain the brain's split-second feats. Something else was clearly at work that passed the call to action almost instantaneously.

Cells lining the brain's blood vessels are linked by gap junctions, narrow portals that let neighbouring cells exchange ions and small molecules. When Chengua Gu's lab at Harvard University introduced serotonin into one cell, it slipped through the junctions to its neighbours. A later test revealed a web of connections that were strongest in the arteries and weaker in the veins. The team found that two connexin proteins, Cx37 and Cx40, were especially abundant in the arteries and inferred they may be responsible for the rapid call to action.

The findings were published in *Cell* in July.

University College London neuroscientist David Attwell said this arrangement lets signals travel along vessel walls to widen upstream arteries, boosting blood flow to active brain areas. Brant Isakson, a vascular physiologist at the University of Virginia, added that different vessels use different connexins to pass certain signals better, "like specific pipes for specific fluids".

To prove the link, the Harvard team bred mice that lacked Cx37 and Cx40 in their artery walls. In healthy mice, a burst of brain activity sent a widening signal along the arteries that reached more than a millimetre in a quarter of a second. In the modified mice, the signal moved at a third of the speed.

The gap became most obvious when large swaths of the brain lit up. In healthy mice, the widening action spread rapidly and in sync across the arterial network. In the modified mice, it was slower, weaker, and stuck near the source. The results suggested that gap junctions acted as a "scaling mechanism" that let blood delivery grow to match bursts of brain activity.

Anna Devor, a neuroscientist at Boston University who studies how blood flow shapes fMRI signals, said the study nailed down the mechanism that lets vessel-widening signals travel along the vessel walls and measured how fast that happens.

"Knowing both the mechanism and the speed is priceless for computer models linking brain activity to blood flow," she said. Such models, according to her, could help detect vascular problems, test drugs virtually, and guide therapies, especially when paired with artificial intelligence models.

The results could also help explain mismatches between brain activity and blood flow. Devor recalled the late imaging pioneer Amiram Grinvald likening the brain's oxygen supply to "watering the entire garden for one thirsty flower". Signals to widen vessels often travel upstream, adding delays: hundreds of milliseconds in small arteries and over a second in larger ones. This study shows that gap junctions account for much of that lag, with the rest due to slower chemical messengers reaching their target vessels.

The work may also raise questions about disease. Attwell noted that it's possible, but unproven, that losing gap junction connections in aging or small vessel diseases could lower brain blood flow. Testing that idea, he said, would mean boosting the proteins in lab animals and seeing if that improved brain function.

According to Isakson, the findings could help develop drugs to activate connexins as well as discover how the brain's 20-plus connexin protein types combine into mosaic junctions that fine-tune messages from cell to cell.

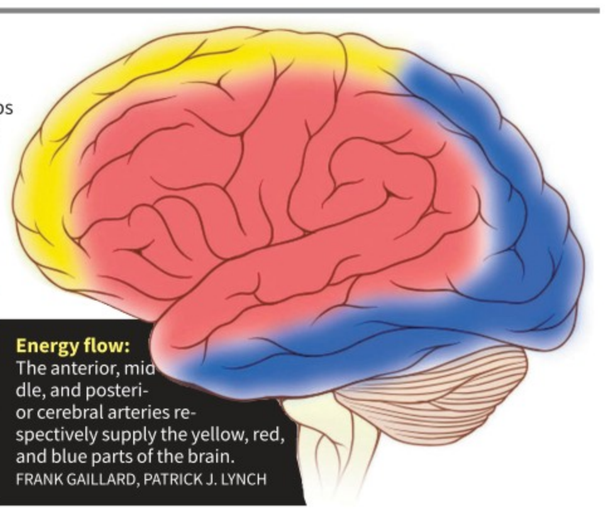
The brain's energy efficiency depends on more than just responsive neurons: it requires a hidden vascular network. Here, the arteries exchange rapid messages through the gap junctions, coordinating supply lines across millimetres in the blink of an eye. This chatter is a reminder that the brain's lifeblood is as much in its wiring as in its firing.

(Anirban Mukhopadhyay is a geneticist by training and science communicator from Delhi)

Signal corps

A hidden vascular network helps keep the brain energy-efficient

- The body rapidly boosts blood flow to active neurons in the brain, requiring instant, network-wide arterial coordination
- Researchers have identified gap junctions enriched with Cx37 and Cx40 proteins as conduits for this swift communication
- Introducing serotonin into one endothelial cell propagated through junctions, showing signals traverse vessel walls almost instantly
- Mice lacking the arterial Cx37 and Cx40 proteins displayed dilation waves moving three-times slower than normal
- Gap junction signalling acts as a scaling mechanism, matching cerebral blood delivery to widespread neuronal bursts
- The findings refine neurovascular models, informing disease research and AI-guided therapies targeting vascular connexin modulation



Energy flow: The anterior, middle, and posterior cerebral arteries respectively supply the yellow, red, and blue parts of the brain. FRANK GAILLARD, PATRICK J. LYNCH

Scientists find gene that stops rice from breaking

D.P. Kasbekar

Rice is the staple food for over half of the world's population. Before a rice grain can be made edible, the outermost layer of husk covering it has to be removed. Mechanical rollers abrade the layers in a process called milling and some of the rice grains break as a result.

The breakage increases if the grains have a trait called chalkiness. Rice is said to be chalky if after milling a large fraction of grains have extensive parts that are opaque rather than translucent. (This difference disappears during cooking, however.)

Chalkiness is measured by the chalky grain rate, the proportion of chalky grains among all rice grains, and the degree of chalkiness.

The trait is influenced by many genes and by environmental factors, like high temperature. Thus scientists have long struggled to find ways to reduce chalkiness. Recently, a breakthrough came in the work of a team from the Agricultural College of Yangzhou University in China. The researchers identified a gene they named *Chalk9*, which they found controls the chalkiness in many rice varieties. Their findings were reported in July.

Encoding a protein

The researchers sequenced the genome of 175 rice varieties and identified a small stretch of DNA on chromosome 9 whose presence or absence correlated significantly with the variety's chalkiness. Less chalky varieties contained the segment and showed higher expression of *Chalk9* in endosperms compared to high-chalkiness varieties.

The endosperm is the part of paddy grain that makes up the bulk of the milled rice.

Rice is said to be chalky if after milling a large fraction of grains have parts that are opaque rather than translucent. G. RAMAKRISHNA

The DNA segment the team found contained sites that are recognised and bound by proteins called transcription factors. One of them, called OsB3, was highly expressed in the endosperm. When OsB3 bound to the DNA, it activated the expression of the *Chalk9* gene. The OsB3 protein failed to trigger this expression in varieties from which the segment was absent.

Based on the *Chalk9* gene's DNA sequence, the researchers predicted it encoded a protein belonging to a class of enzymes called E3 ubiquitin ligases.

Making, storing starch

The researchers wanted to find out what makes some rice grains chalky. First, they found that the Chalk9 protein attached tags to another protein called OsEBP89. Tagging OsEBP89 caused it to become destroyed by the cell. This mattered because OsEBP89 was like a power switch. It turned on two kinds of important genes. One, called *Wx*, helped the rice grain make amylose, a starchy molecule built from sugar. The other kind, *SSP* genes, made proteins to store starch in the rice grain.

If OsEBP89 was missing, those genes didn't turn on much and the rice grains ended up being less chalky. But if there was too much OsEBP89, the genes switched on too much and the rice became chalkier. When the scientists put the OsEBP89 protein in a lab mix with all the tagging machinery, the OsEBP89 got tagged and destroyed. But if the Chalk9 gene was modified just a little, the OsEBP89 protein escaped tagging.

The researchers surveyed 127 rice varieties and found that the frequency of the *Chalk9* gene's low chalkiness version, *Chalk9*-L, was relatively low prior to 1990, but increased significantly thereafter. Before 1990, most rice varieties carried *Chalk9*-H, the high chalkiness version. Rice breeding programs had unwittingly selected for *Chalk9*-L to reduce chalkiness and improve grain quality.

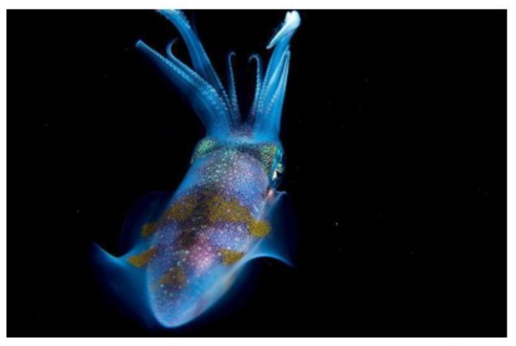
Now, breeders can achieve this goal in a single step by introducing *Chalk9*-L into rice varieties from which it is absent.

(D.P. Kasbekar is a retired scientist)

SNAPSHOTS

Runoff DNA reveals tropical rainforest canopy biodiversity

Researchers from France and Norway have developed a low-cost way to explore the biodiversity of tropical rainforest canopies. Instead of climbing trees or catching animals, they collected DNA fragments washed off leaves by rain using repurposed umbrellas and filters in French Guiana. They detected DNA from hundreds of species, including trees, frogs, birds, monkeys, and insects. Old forests also had more species than nearby plantations, showing the method can reveal effects of human disturbance.



How squids change colour or turn transparent on demand

Researchers have found that skin cells called iridophores in squids' dorsal mantle contain winding columns of platelets with an unusual wave-like pattern in their refractive index. This structure is responsible for squids' ability to display vibrant colors or turn transparent on demand. The team built artificial materials with an internal structure mimicking the squids' that could change colour and transparency under visible light. These materials can be useful for camouflage, heat control, displays, and sensors.

Ionic liquids can support life on arid worlds

Scientists have found life can exist on rocky super-earths with volcanic activity and little water thanks to ionic liquids. These are salts that stay liquid even in a vacuum. In the lab, they made ionic liquids by mixing volcanic sulphuric acid with nitrogen-containing organic molecules found on planets, then letting the extra acid evaporate. These liquids are stable, can dissolve biological molecules to support life, and remove the need for water oceans to support alien life.

Question Corner

Quieting the brain

How does general anaesthesia work?

General anaesthesia is a medically induced state that allows doctors to perform surgeries without the patient having pain, awareness, or memory. It achieves this by inducing a loss of consciousness, relaxing muscles, and producing amnesia. Anaesthesiologists typically begin with intravenous drugs like propofol to rapidly induce unconsciousness, then maintain it with inhaled gases or continuous infusions. Anaesthetics alter communication between nerve cells in the brain. Many enhance the production of GABA, the brain's main inhibitory neurotransmitter, which damps activity and sedates the person. Others block glutamate receptors, reducing excitatory signalling. The end result is a quiet brain in which sensory signals don't register pain, and memories don't form. Scientists still don't fully understand how consciousness itself arises or how exactly anaesthesia disrupts it. Some theories suggest that anaesthetics fragment communication between brain regions, preventing the integration needed for awareness.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

Is the new Income Tax law more accessible?

What are the changes from the Income Tax Act of 1961? What are the implications?

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan

The story so far:

The Income Tax Bill 2025, which seeks to replace the Income Tax Act of 1961, was passed by Parliament in the ongoing monsoon session. The Bill is significantly shorter, more concise, and has clearer legislation. However, it also incorporates some new elements that could be problematic.

Why was a new law needed?

The Income Tax Act, 1961 is outdated, and over the years has been amended numerous times, leading to income tax legislation in India being convoluted and difficult for an average citizen to understand. It also provided tax officials ample scope for harassment due to the discretion the law afforded them. In the new Bill, the number of chapters has been brought down to 23 from 47 in the Income Tax Act, 1961, and the number of Sections to 536 from 819.

Moreover, in order to provide greater clarity, the new Bill has increased the number of tables to 57 from 18 and the number of formulae to 46 from six. Most importantly, the language has been greatly simplified. Jargon has been removed as much as possible, and examples have been provided where needed.

Why was a second version of the Bill needed?

The original version of the Income Tax Bill 2025 was introduced in Parliament in February this year. However, given the importance of the legislation and the ambitious nature of what it was trying to do, it was decided to refer it to a Select Committee. The committee was headed by Baijayant Panda and comprised Members of Parliament from across political parties. The Select Committee submitted its report in July this year. It was a mammoth report, and while it retained much of the language in the new Bill, it also recommended several changes. On August 8, 2025, the government withdrew the Bill to incorporate the suggestions made by the committee. The reason for the withdrawal was to avoid confusion through multiple versions of the Bill and to provide a clear and updated version with all the changes incorporated. That new version was introduced in the Lok Sabha on August 11, 2025 and was passed the same day without debate.

> Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was clear that the purpose of the new legislation was to simplify the existing law, not to change the rates or slabs through it

What has changed in the new Bill?

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was clear from the outset that the purpose of the new legislation was to simplify and rationalise the existing law, not to change the rates or slabs through it. Those changes are made periodically by the government, such as in Budget 2025, when the income tax slabs and rates were substantially changed. Most of the changes will not impact the average income tax payer, and are more technical in nature. For example, the provisions of Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) and Alternate Minimum Tax (AMT) have been separated into two sub-sections. However, the new law has codified some taxpayer-friendly features. For example, taxpayers can now update their income tax returns up to four years from the end of the relevant assessment year. This means mistakes can be rectified without any penalty or tax incidence. Notably, the period for which assessments could be reopened has been reduced to five years.

Are all the changes positive?

No. The provisions relating to searches by income tax officials have been tweaked to include some concerning features. The original Income Tax Act 1961 required anybody found to be in control or possession of any documents in electronic form to provide the authorised officer "the necessary facility to inspect such books of account or other documents". It also authorised the tax official to "break open the lock of any door, box, locker, safe, almirah or other receptacle" in case their keys were not available.

The new law takes these concepts a step further. It now says that anybody in possession or control of electronic documents or information must not only provide the tax officer "reasonable technical and other assistance", but also share passwords. As the law sets no limits on what electronic information the tax officer may need to assess, this means the assessee must also share passwords of social media and personal emails, if required. Further, the law also empowers the tax official to "override the access code to any computer system" if the password is not provided.

What is the justification?

While a few members of the committee called for the dilution of these sections in their dissent notes, the Select Committee as a whole accepted the government's argument that a lot of relevant financial information is shared over messaging services or stored in personal emails, and so recommended that these sections be included.

What are the challenges confronting the EC?

Why is the Election Commission of India in the eye of a storm? What are the allegations raised by the Opposition? What happened after the draft electoral roll was released in Bihar? What is the Supreme Court's interim order? How are migrant voters going to be affected by the SIR?

Sreeparna Chakrabarty

The story so far:

At a press conference on August 7, Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi accused the Election Commission (EC) of massive electoral roll manipulations in Mahadevapura Assembly constituency in Karnataka. Mr. Gandhi's presser capped a series of allegations of deliberate voter roll discrepancies by the EC beginning with the Maharashtra Assembly polls. This, coupled with the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, which is under judicial scrutiny, has put the poll body in the eye of a storm.

What is the mandate of the EC?

The Election Commission of India is a permanent constitutional body. The Constitution has vested in the EC the superintendence, direction and control of the entire process for conduct of elections to Parliament and the legislature of every State, and to the offices of President and Vice-President of India. Originally, the commission only had a Chief Election Commissioner (CEC). It was expanded to include two Election Commissioners (ECs).

Why has there been a controversy about the appointment process?

Parliament passed a new law governing appointments to the EC, namely the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023. In accordance with the new law, the ECs are selected by a three-member selection committee, comprising the Prime Minister, a Union Minister and the Leader of the Opposition. The Opposition had objected to this, saying the committee gave little room for dissent as the Prime Minister and the Union Minister are part of the government and could rule 2:1 in favour of their candidate.

> The ongoing monsoon session of Parliament has been virtually paralysed over demands for a discussion on the Bihar SIR exercise

In protest: Rahul Gandhi and other INDIA bloc leaders during their march to the Election Commission from Parliament, in New Delhi on August 11. ANI

Why is the EC's role in the spotlight?

Last year, the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) alliance had alleged that lakhs of new voters had been added to Maharashtra's electoral rolls in the time period between the Lok Sabha polls in May and the Assembly elections in October. The Congress had made the same allegations about Haryana, and later the Aam Aadmi Party alleged that voter rolls were tweaked in Delhi before Assembly polls. Even as the EC was grappling with these claims, CEC Gyanesh Kumar announced the SIR in Bihar which aims at cleaning up electoral rolls. The EC said the SIR exercise will be carried out across the country.

At his press conference, Mr. Gandhi alleged large-scale discrepancies in the Mahadevapura Assembly segment under the Bangalore Central Lok Sabha constituency in Karnataka which he claimed helped the BJP win the seat. Mr. Gandhi said his party had carried out an investigation which spanned over six months before reaching this conclusion. He claimed that the voter list had manipulated entries, including duplicate voters, invalid addresses, and bulk registrations of votes at single locations. Following this, Mr. Gandhi reiterated his demand for machine readable voter rolls to be provided to all political parties for proper verification. The EC stated it has not been providing machine readable or "text-searchable" voter lists for concerns over cyber-security. The Supreme Court (SC) had upheld it in a petition filed by former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath in 2018.

When was a revision announced in Bihar?

On June 24, the EC ordered a SIR of electoral rolls in Bihar, barely five months before the Assembly elections. As per the SIR orders, every voter in Bihar who had not been listed in the 2003 voter rolls would have to submit documents proving their date and place of birth to determine whether they were Indian citizens. Those born after 1987 would also have to submit proof of their parents' date and place of birth.

However, after the completion of the first phase of the SIR exercise, the EC released a draft electoral roll on August 1, which saw a drop in the number of voters in Bihar by 65 lakh. There were 7.89 crore voters registered in the 2025 electoral list before the SIR exercise; after the recount, it slid to 7.24 crore electors. The EC said that most of these 65 lakh "missing" voters have died; are registered in two locations; have migrated out of Bihar; or are untraceable. Civil society organisations, Opposition parties as well as NGOs approached the Supreme Court challenging the SIR process.

What has the SC directed EC to do?

In an interim order on August 14, the Supreme Court directed the EC to publish an enumerated, booth-wise list of the 65 lakh electors not included in the draft roll. A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi instructed the EC to provide reasons for the deletion – death, migration, untraceability, duplicate registrations – against each name. The court also asked EC to accept Aadhaar as proof of identity for an elector to include his or her name in the rolls.

"That it has taken the Supreme Court to nudge the EC towards following basic norms of natural justice and fairness in the Bihar SIR exercise reflects poorly on an organisation which takes pride in collecting and counting every last vote. While errors can creep into voter lists over time, the answer to that is not mass disenfranchisement as the EC is attempting," said Alok Kumar Prasanna, Advocate and Co-Founder of Vidhi Centre for Public Policy.

What about migrant voters?

Migrant voters still have to return to the place where they are on the rolls to vote. This is a huge cost and depresses turnout, notes Mr. Prasanna. "There is no simple solution to this currently. The solution will have to be cheap, secure and transparent to work. Solutions which work in richer societies and for richer migrants will not work for poor migrants from States like Bihar," he added.

What has been the political fallout?

After Mr. Gandhi's press conference, the Opposition upped the ante and tried to hold a march from Parliament to the Election Commission headquarters. They courted arrest when stopped. The ongoing monsoon session of Parliament has also been virtually paralysed over demands for a discussion on the Bihar SIR. The government has, however, not conceded to the Opposition's demand. The issue has brought Opposition parties together and protests are likely to continue when Parliament reconvenes on August 18.

"To protect the voters of this country and democracy whatever has to be done we will do," Rashtriya Janata Dal Rajya Sabha MP Manoj Jha told *The Hindu*.

How does plastic pollution affect health?

Why have negotiators in Geneva rejected a draft treaty? What is the threat from lab-made polymers? What are the chemicals potentially used or present in plastic materials and products? Does exposure to these chemicals have an adverse impact on health?

Jacob Koshy

The story so far:

Around 180 countries have failed to find consensus on an internationally binding legal agreement that sought to restrict plastic pollution. Talks in Geneva remained deadlocked on the issue late this week. While there is already a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)-backed resolution on the need for such a move, only a binding agreement will actually force countries to take concrete action. However, countries are divided on several questions: should they address plastic waste alone or include plastic production?; should developing countries be funded by developed countries for the purpose? The key point of contention is the role of plastics in health.

What are the challenges from plastic?

No material symbolises the global, industrialised, consumption-based economy like plastic. The chemical constituents of plastics are polymers, and they can be natural – like cellulose, lignin, and are the basis of nearly everything in nature – or made in labs. Polymers derived from fossil fuel and then shaped into objects are in general called 'plastic.' As a derivative of crude oil, it has the ability to be moulded into a nearly infinite variety of objects, from critical things, including aircraft and medical equipment, to cosmetic items such as tinsel, baubles and packaging. Add to that its low cost of production relative to materials such as glass and aluminium. The ubiquity of plastics and the fact that it is cheap has led to it being the prime source of litter and a symbol of the collapse of waste management systems.

> A report last year in the journal *Nature* concluded that more than 4,000 chemicals of concern can be present in each major plastic type

Enduring threat: An NGO volunteer collects plastic waste from the Punchakkari canal, in Thiruvananthapuram, on August 4. PTI

However, plastic's flexibility also implies its persistence. Plastics are mixtures of various types that include monomers, polymers, and chemical additives. There are more than 16,000 chemicals potentially used or present in plastic materials and products. There is little or no information about the potential impact on human health or the environment by over 10,000 of these chemicals. A report last year in the journal *Nature* concluded that more than 4,000 chemicals of concern can be present in each major plastic type, such as PVC, polyurethanes, PET, polyethylene and others. Given that most of these are synthetic and non-biodegradable, public opinion has generally focussed on recycling or waste management. Over the years, however, there has been a body of scientific investigation into how these chemicals – that are indestructible – may make their way into living organisms in rivers, oceans, land and ultimately inside people.

What is evidence that plastic harms health?

Ethylene, propylene, styrene and their derivatives are commonly used to make plastic. Ethylene derivatives such as polypropene (PP), low-density polyethylene (LDPE), linear low-density polyethylene (LLDPE), high-density polyethylene (HDPE) and polyethylene terephthalate (PET) comprise the largest portion of downstream petrochemicals used to make plastic packaging. However, manufacturing them requires a range of other chemicals, several of which are monomers (the building blocks of polymers). These include bisphenols, phthalates, polychlorinated-biphenyls (PCB), polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs), and per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). They are used to produce food containers, drink bottles, teething toys, polyester, intravenous bags, cosmetics, paints, electronic components, adhesives and sealants.

For years, there have been a bulk of studies where medical researchers have investigated if exposure to these chemicals, via the products used, is having a discernible impact on health. Earlier this month, Boston College in the U.S. and Australia's Minderoo Foundation launched a dashboard that compiled such evidence. There are around 1,100 primary studies involving about 1.1 million individuals that have linked changes in thyroid function, hypertension, kidney and testicular cancer, and gestational diabetes to exposure to these chemicals. The vast proportion of these individuals studied are in the developed world. Nearly, all of these studies are "associative", in the sense that the measured disease outcome could be a result of exposure to the chemicals as well as a range of other factors, and it is not always possible to tease apart individual effects.

The true "gold standard" of exposure is a "longitudinal study", where a fixed group of people are tracked over a long time to discern the effects of chemical exposure, but this is time consuming. There are studies underway, said Dr. Sarah Paul, neuroscientist and head of Plastics and Human Health, Minderoo, to evaluate if a group of people who were consciously less exposed to certain plastics would have improved health outcomes.

What about microplastics?

Microplastics are plastics smaller than five millimetres and can refer to the constituent elements of a variety of additives or plastic products. Given that technology available to detect them is relatively recent, they have over the years been found in blood, breast milk, placenta and bone marrow. While their exact impact on human health is unclear, they too are implicated in a wide range of disorders.

What is India doing about plastic?

There is a ban on the production and use of single-use plastics in nearly 20 States. These are the category of plastic goods that are the least re-usable and difficult to recycle. Given that they constitute a waste management problem, India has a range of administrative process meant to push companies towards ensuring that a proportion of plastic that is used are collected back. However, this has had limited effect. India doesn't yet recognise the impact of plastics and chemicals on health.

In international negotiations on the global plastics treaty, India and other countries have expressed reservations on including discussions on health in the plastic treaty and said that these are matters to be taken up at the World Health Organization. Thus, plastics is primarily a waste management problem, as far as India is concerned.

PROFILES

The British Left's second act

Jeremy Corbyn

The former Labour leader is trying to mobilise left-wing voters under his new party as Labour under Keir Starmer is struggling to maintain public support amid its lacklustre policy towards Gaza's devastation and a host of other economic and social crises the U.K. is facing

Srinivasan Ramani

In late July 2025, Jeremy Corbyn announced the formation of a new left-wing political party alongside former Labour MP Zarah Sultana, marking a new chapter for one of Britain's unique political figures in the past decade. Operating under the provisional name 'Your Party', this venture represents Mr. Corbyn's boldest move since his expulsion, last year, from the Labour Party he once led. Mr. Corbyn is also part of the Independent Alliance, a parliamentary grouping of six independent MPs consisting of five Muslims – including Ms. Sultana as the sole woman – who have positioned themselves as vocal critics of the current Labour government's policies on everything from welfare cuts to arms sales to Israel.

The announcement has already generated strong grassroots enthusiasm according to Mr. Corbyn, with over 6,50,000 people signing up for membership in the party's first weeks – a figure that suggests a significant appetite for an alternative to current Prime Minister Keir Starmer's Labour.

In 2015, Mr. Corbyn's successful bid for the Labour leadership caught the political establishment completely off guard. As Andrew Murray, one of Mr. Corbyn's key advisers, reflected in a recent interview in *Jacobin* magazine, the victory was "totally unexpected" and driven by "exasperation within the Labour membership with the legacy of New Labour". While his rivals offered tepid continuations of the (Tony) Blair-(Gordon) Brown era, Mr. Corbyn represented something genuinely different: authentic opposition to neoliberalism, a commitment to mass movement politics rather than pure parliamentary politics, and an uncompromising anti-imperialist foreign policy stance.

This combination was remarkable in the context of European social democracy. Unlike left-wing movements in Spain, Germany, or France that emerged from communist traditions or as entirely new formations, Mr. Corbyn accomplished something unique in European politics: he captured the leadership of a major, mainstream, social democratic party from a position of fundamental opposition to its decades-long trajectory toward centrism. In some ways, his rise was similar to that of Bernie Sanders in the Democratic Party in the U.S. at a similar time. His programmatic positions included renationalisation of utilities, massive public investment, and wealth redistribution.

The 2017 general election validated this approach. Against all expectations, Mr. Corbyn led Labour to its biggest vote swing since 1945, securing 40% of the vote – a performance matched by only two other Labour campaigns since 1970, under Mr. Blair.

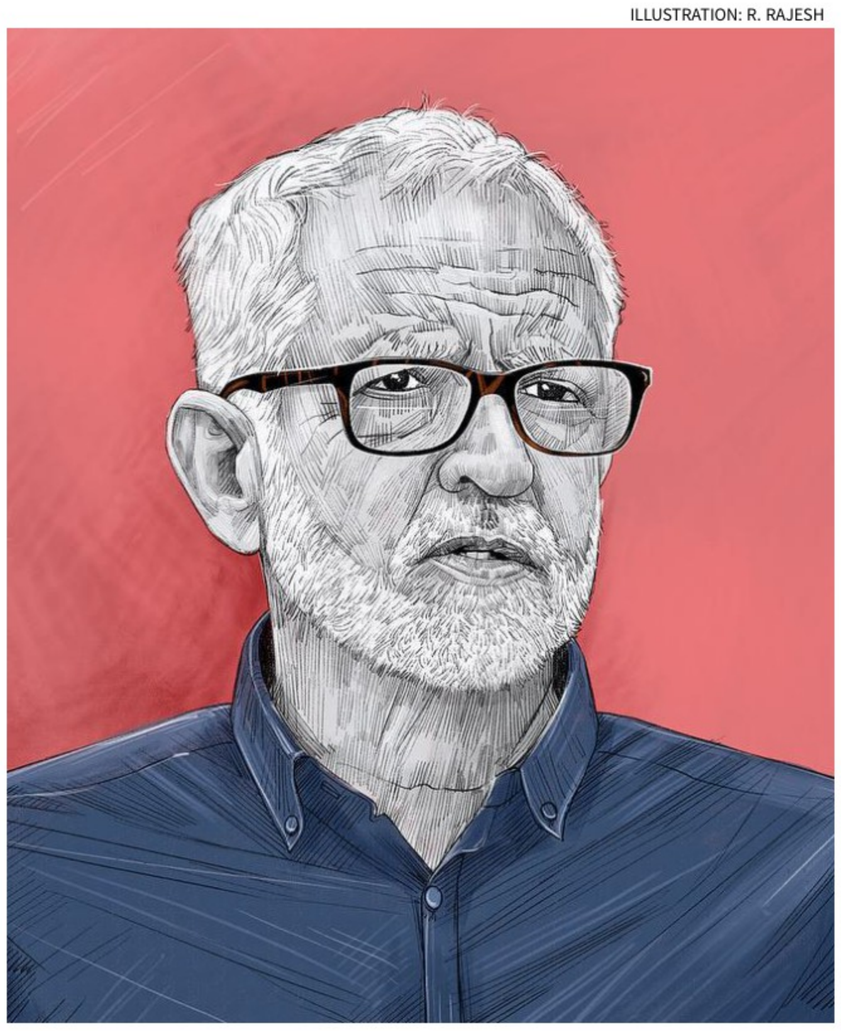
Enemies within

However, Mr. Corbyn's functioning as Labour leader was constantly undermined by fierce resistance from within his own party. Mr. Murray estimates that at least 80% of Labour MPs opposed Mr. Corbyn "with different degrees of vehemence and for different reasons". This internal hostility created what Mr. Murray describes as feeling "like an encampment in the middle of enemy fire the whole time, coming from your own side". This was also exacerbated by a hostile media that lampooned or mischaracterised many of his positions ruthlessly. The opposition intensified around Mr. Corbyn's foreign policy positions, particularly his solidarity with Palestinian rights and criticism of Israeli policies.

This foreign policy stance became a focal point of opposition, with allegations of anti-Semitism within the Labour Party being used to attack his leadership. The accusations created a "moral damage" that paralysed Mr. Corbyn's leadership and drained energy from his team, even if they weren't the primary factor in his eventual electoral defeat.

The issue that ultimately proved fatal to Mr. Corbyn's leadership was Brexit. Initially, he managed to straddle Britain's fundamental political divide by promising to "respect the referendum result" in 2016 while delivering a different Brexit than the

ILLUSTRATION: R. RAJESH



Tories. This position helped maintain support amongst traditional Labour voters in working-class constituencies who had voted Leave, while not completely alienating Remain supporters. However, mounting pressure from a newly energised pro-EU movement and overwhelming Remain sentiment among Labour members forced him into an increasingly untenable position. By 2019, Labour had committed to a second referendum – a stance that proved electorally catastrophic.

Following Labour's 2019 defeat, Mr. Starmer systematically dismantled Mr. Corbyn's legacy within the party. Mr. Corbyn was suspended and eventually expelled, while many of his allies were marginalised or forced out. Mr. Starmer's centrist approach proved electorally successful in 2024, delivering Labour its largest parliamentary majority in decades.

However, this victory hid a glaring statistic – Labour actually received fewer votes than Mr. Corbyn had achieved in his 2019 defeat, winning primarily due to the collapse of Conservative support and vote-splitting on the Right between the Tories and Reform UK.

More problematically for Labour's left flank, Mr. Starmer has continued many Conservative policies, maintaining austerity measures such as cutting winter fuel allowances for pensioners, and continuing defence partnership with Israel despite its devastating attacks in Gaza, which international rights organisations and many in Britain describe as genocide. This has created the political vacuum that Mr. Corbyn's new party hopes to fill.

Yet, his new venture faces formidable challenges. At 76, Mr. Corbyn is no longer the energetic outsider who captured imaginations in 2015. As writer Richard Seymour noted in his assessment of the post-Corbyn Left in 2020, the fundamental conditions that enabled the original Corbyn surge – economic austerity as the dominant political issue, faith in traditional social democratic solutions – have evolved significantly. There is a reason why Mr. Corbyn's strongest allies presently have been limited to those who agree with his positions on the Gaza issue.

'Democratic crisis'

The current political moment is shaped by different dynamics: immigration anxieties, cultural polarisation, and what Mr. Seymour identifies as a broader "democratic crisis" that transcends simple economic grievances. The Left's traditional focus on "bread and butter" issues, while still relevant, may prove insufficient in addressing these deeper structural problems. Moreover, the working-class base that formed Labour's traditional foundation has been fundamentally altered by decades of deindustrialisation and social change.

While his name recognition and symbolic value remain significant assets, the energy and dynamism required for party-building may need to come from younger figures such as Ms. Sultana. Also, the British first-past-the-post system makes breakthrough difficult for new parties.

Yet, the early enthusiasm for 'Your Party' suggests genuine hunger for an alternative to Mr. Starmer's centrist approach. With Britain facing continued economic stagnation, social unrest, and international crises, there remains space for a left-wing alternative. Whether this new formation can avoid the sectarian splits that have historically plagued the British Left, adapt to changed political conditions, and provide leadership beyond Mr. Corbyn's eventual retirement, remains an open question.

THE GIST

- In 2015, Jeremy Corbyn's successful bid for the Labour leadership, rooted in authentic opposition to neoliberalism, a commitment to mass movement politics and an uncompromising anti-imperialist foreign policy stance, caught the political establishment completely off guard
- The 2017 general election validated this approach. Against all expectations, Corbyn led Labour to its biggest vote swing since 1945, securing 40% of the vote
- But Corbyn's functioning as Labour leader was constantly undermined by fierce resistance from within his own party. His foreign policy stance became a focal point of opposition, with allegations of anti-Semitism within Labour being used to attack his leadership

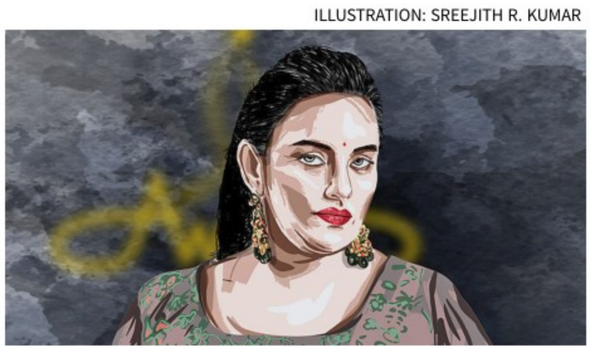
Madam president

Shwetha Menon

The actor has been elected the first woman president of the Association of Malayalam Movie Artistes, which was rocked by the revelations of the Hema Committee last year

G. Krishnakumar

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R. KUMAR



Actor Shwetha Menon has broken the glass ceiling in the Association of Malayalam Movie Artistes (AMMA) after being elected as its first woman president.

Since its inception in 1994, the actors' body in the Malayalam film industry never had a woman as its president or general secretary. The 51-year-old defeated senior actor Devan to clinch the lead post in a keen electoral race held on August 15. She has a trusted lieutenant in actor Kukku Parameswaran, who was elected as the first woman general secretary of the association.

The election to the 17-member executive committee was necessitated after the previous committee led by its president and actor Mohanlal stepped down on August 27, 2024, following the release of the Hema Committee report on the problems faced by women in the Malayalam film industry. The committee was disbanded as allegations of sexual abuse and misbehaviour were raised against its members, including the office-bearers.

Born in Chandigarh as the daughter of an Indian Air Force official, Shwetha entered tinsel town in 1991 after she was paired opposite to actor Mammootty in the movie *Anaswaram*. She shot into national fame after she won the Femina Miss India Asia Pacific title in 1994 and became the Gladrags female supermodel in the same year.

She sizzled in ad films and walked the ramp with elan before trying her luck in Bollywood in 1997 through the movie *Ishq*. Some of her Hindi movies included *Asoka*, *Maqbool* and *Corporate*. Her performance as Cheeru in director Ranjith's *Paleri Manikyam: Oru Pathira Kolapathakathinte Katha* won her the Kerala State Film Award for the Best Actress in 2009. She repeated her stellar performance in 2011 and won the best actress in the Kerala Film Award for her portrayal of Maya, a dubbing artiste and foodie, in Aashiq Abu's *Salt N' Pepper*. She has worked in over 100 movies in Malayalam, Hindi, Tamil and Telugu, besides hosting various TV shows.

She has had her share of controversies in her over three-decade-old career. In November 2013, she lodged a police complaint alleging that then Congress MP N. Peethambara Kurup had physically misbehaved with her. She later withdrew it after he tendered an apology. She received brickbats from a section of viewers after she allowed her delivery to be recorded on camera and use the footage in filmmaker Blessy's *Kalimannu* in which she played the lead role. The Kerala High Court, which heard the matter, refused to intervene saying the actor had consented to the shooting of her delivery and there was no violation of her fundamental right.

Illegal bans

She never ruffled feathers with the protracted male-dominated leadership in the association. However, she did not remain mute after the Hema panel report was published while asserting that she had also faced illegal bans. She resigned from the Internal Complaints Committee of the association, along with actors Maala Parvathi and Kukku Parameswaran in 2022 following the reluctance of then leadership to take action against actor-producer Vijay Babu in a case registered by the Kochi city police on charges of alleged rape of a young woman actor and revealing the identity of the survivor.

Just a week before the election, a First Information Report (FIR) was registered against her by the Kochi city police under Section 67 A of the Information Technology Act, 2000, on a complaint lodged by a native of Ernakulam "for making financial gains through her roles in movies having alleged vulgar and obscene content". Speculations were rife that the complaint was allegedly aided by her detractors from within the association. The actor heaved a sigh of relief after the Kerala High Court stayed the proceedings in connection with the FIR.

Despite the scenes of jubilation over the election of women in lead roles in the association, the way forward may not be a cakewalk for her in view of the internal rift and mud-slinging witnessed ahead of the election. The fissures within the organisation seem deep and will require her to pull out all the stops to stay afloat.

Chilling past, warm present

Alaska

The former Russian region sold to the U.S. in 1867, which still bears traces of Russian cultural influence, hosted Trump and Putin for a historic summit

Sruthi Darbhamulla

PTI

On August 15, U.S President Donald Trump and Russian leader Vladimir Putin concluded a historic summit in Alaska. After friendly greetings and two-and-a-half-hour long talks at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage, they left without announcing any deal, but claimed to have made progress on many issues.

The selection of Alaska as the backdrop for this summit, the first since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, was significant in more than one manner. Alaska was under Russian control for 125 years, before being sold to the U.S. in 1867. Alaska is separated from Russia by a distance of 88 km, while the Russian Island of Big Diomede is located just 4 km from the U.S. Little Diomede Island, with the Bering strait separating the two.

Alaska has been populated by Indigenous peoples, including the Athabaskans, Unangan (Aleuts), Inuit, Yupiit (Yupik), Tlingit, and Haida, for centuries. In the early 18th century, Danish explorer Vitus Bering was pressed into service by Russian Tsar Peter the Great to explore the regions to the east of Russia's border. In 1728, Bering sailed through the strait separating Russian mainland and North America (the strait is now named after him). During his second voyage in 1741, Bering spotted the peak of Mount St. Elias, part of an Alaskan mountain range, from his ship *St. Peter*. His "discovery" of Alaska was confirmed later during the voyage of Englishman Captain James Cook, who mapped the area in 1778.

Trading outposts

Russian traders – the Promyshlenniki – soon set up outposts in Alaska, interested in seal-hunting and otter fur trade. The first Russian colony was set up in 1784 on Kodiak island at Three Saints Bay. In 1799, Tsar Paul I established the Russian American company, and in 1806, their capital was moved from Kodiak to Sitka.

The Russians had to contend with opposition from the Alaskan natives, including an armed battle in Sitka in 1804 between Tlingit and Russian forces. British and later American trade interest in the region was also a challenge to the growth of 'Russian America'. Over decades, overexploitation of seals and sea otters in Alaska meant that their populations shrank, gutting profitability for Russian traders. Further, Russia was defeated by the British in the Crimean war (1853-1856). Viewing Alaska as a hard-to-defend territory which was also becoming economically untenable, Tsar Alexander II decided to give it up.

Despite British interest, the U.S. emerged triumphant in its bid for Alaska in 1867. Russia sold the parcel of land, measured 665,000 sq. miles, to the U.S for $7.2 million, in a deal brokered by U.S. Secretary of State William Henry Seward. The deal, dubbed as 'Seward's Folly', was widely criticised, since Alaska was viewed as a barren frozen wasteland. The subsequent discovery of natural gas reserves and rare earth minerals, however, changed the public perception. In 1896, gold was found in Yukon and prospectors arrived to seek their fortunes in the Klondike gold fields. In 1959, Alaska officially became the 49th State of the U.S.

Traces of its Russian past persist in Alaska till day. Several Orthodox churches, with characteristic ornate decor and onion-shaped domes, dot the region. The Orthodox diocese in Alaska is reportedly the oldest in North America, and it maintains a seminary on Kodiak island, the site of the first Russian settlement. Local dialects, now fast-vanishing, arose from a melange of Russian and local indigenous language, and persisted in regions surrounding Anchorage. Russian, too, is taught in some areas, such as the Kenai peninsula.

Alaska is also a strategically important region. Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, the site of Friday's summit, was a forward front of American defence during the Cold War.

Given the region's imperial Russian past, it was hardly a surprise that Anchorage was picked as the venue for the Putin-Trump meet – an American town acceptable for the Russians. When Mr. Putin met Mr. Trump on the tarmac of the joint base, he greeted him, saying, 'Good afternoon, dear neighbour."

BRUSSELS

European leaders voice support for Putin-Trump-Zelenskyy meet

AFP

European leaders on Saturday backed a three-way summit between Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump. A statement, signed by Emmanuel Macron, Friedrich Merz, Keir Starmer and Ursula von der Leyen, called for pressuring Russia until peace was achieved, including through sanctions. AFP

KYIV

'Russia launched 85 drones and one missile on Ukraine overnight'

REUTERS

Russia launched 85 drones and a missile at Ukraine overnight, Kyiv said on Saturday, hours after Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin held talks in Alaska. Ukraine's Air Force said Moscow had "attacked with an Iskander-M ballistic missile and 85 Shahed-type" drones, while also attacking "frontline areas" in four regions. AFP

BANGKOK

Military air strike on gem mining town kills at least 21 in Myanmar

REUTERS

An air strike by Myanmar's military on the town of Mogok, the centre of the country's gem-mining industry, has killed at least 21 people including a pregnant woman, an armed opposition group and local residents said. 16 women were among the victims killed in the air strike that appeared to target a Buddhist monastery. PTI

GAZA STRIP

At least 39 people killed as Israel intensifies strikes around Gaza city

REUTERS

At least 39 were killed in Israeli strikes on Saturday, Gaza officials said, warning that intensifying strikes on a Gaza City neighbourhood were placing its remaining residents in mortal danger. The latest toll comes more than a week after Israel's Security Cabinet approved plans to capture the Palestinian territory's largest city. AFP

There is no deal on the Ukraine war 'until there is a deal'

Trump's call for a peace agreement between Russia and Ukraine marks a climbdown from his earlier demand for an immediate ceasefire; Moscow, on the other hand, has long maintained that it is willing to end the war only through a comprehensive peace deal addressing its key demands — Ukraine's neutrality, 'demilitarisation', and recognition of the captured Ukrainian territory

NEWS ANALYSIS

Stanly Johny

Before he met Russian President Vladimir Putin in Alaska on Friday, U.S. President Donald Trump warned there would be "very serious consequences" if Russia did not end the Ukraine war. He offered Mr. Putin a warm welcome on the tarmac of the Elmendorf-Richardson joint military base in Anchorage, rolling out a red carpet as a B2 bomber, escorted by F-35 fighters, thundered over them. F-22 fifth gen stealth fighters on the ground formed a guard of honour. It was Mr. Putin's first visit to American soil in a decade, and the first face-to-face meeting between the Russian leader and an American President since Russia's invasion of Ukraine began on February 24, 2022.

'Fantastic relationship'

After nearly three hours of talks, Mr. Trump left for Washington without announcing any major breakthrough. "There's no deal until there's a deal," he said. Mr. Trump said they agreed on "many points", without offering any details. Mr. Putin repeated his standard line that the "root causes" of the conflict should be addressed. "I have a fantastic relationship with Vladimir," Mr. Trump said, signalling that the two leaders would continue their face-to-face diplomacy. "Next time in Moscow," Mr. Putin said, in English, when their brief joint media appearance came to an end. "Oooh, that's an interesting one," responded Mr. Trump, adding: "I don't know, I will get a little heat on that one. But I could see it possibly happening."

In an interview with *Fox News* following the summit, Mr. Trump seemed to pass the ball to Mr. Zelenskyy on ending the war. "Now it's really up to President Zelenskyy to get it done." When he was asked whether the U.S. would impose more sanctions on Russia, Mr. Trump said: "Well, because the meeting went so well, we don't have to think about that now."

Room to cover: Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin appeared to have discussed some broad framework for a peace agreement. PTI

Mr. Trump and Mr. Putin appeared to have discussed some broad framework for a peace agreement. Mr. Trump held long talks with Mr. Zelenskyy, European leaders as well as the NATO chief after his talks with Mr. Putin. In a social media post after the talks, Mr. Trump said, "It was determined by all that the best way to end the horrific war between Russia and Ukraine is to go directly to a Peace Agreement, which would end the war, and not a mere Ceasefire Agreement, which often times do not hold up".

Mr. Trump's call for a peace agreement marks a climbdown from his earlier demand for an immediate ceasefire – a position he had repeated even hours before meeting the Russian leader. The Russians, on the other side, have long maintained that they were willing to end the war only through a comprehensive peace deal. So it appears that Mr. Trump, after the Alaska talks, has shifted from pushing for a ceasefire, which is the Ukrainian demand, to endorsing a peace agreement, which is the Russian position.

This does not mean that an agreement is within reach. Moscow has clearly laid out its core demands for an agreement. Firstly, Ukraine must remain a neutral country (meaning, no NATO membership and no NATO troops on its territory); secondly, the five oblasts that Russia has annexed (Crimea, Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson) must be formally recognised as part of the Russian Federation, and Western sanctions be lifted; third, Ukraine must be demilitarised. Ukraine, despite the battlefield setbacks, says it will not cede territory for peace. Europe fears that recognising a Russian victory would leave a stronger Moscow on their doorsteps, deepening their security challenges.

The Alaska summit could open a new era of engagement between Washington and Moscow after decades of hostility. But it is unclear how Mr. Trump would sell a peace agreement based on Russia's core demands to Ukrainians and Europeans. Russia, which has made dramatic territorial gains in eastern Ukraine in recent days, faces no real pressure on the battlefield to make concessions.

Xi said China will not invade Taiwan while I am in office: Trump

Reuters
WASHINGTON

The Chinese Embassy described Taiwan as 'the most important and sensitive issue' in China-U.S. relations

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Friday that Chinese President Xi Jinping told him China would not invade Taiwan while Mr. Trump is in office. Mr. Trump made the comments in an interview with *Fox News*, ahead of talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin over Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.

"I will tell you, you know, you have a very similar thing with President Xi of China and Taiwan, but I don't believe there's any way it's going to happen as long as I am here. We will see," Mr. Trump said during an interview on *Fox News*' "*Special Report*."

"He told me, 'I will never do it as long as you are President.' President Xi told me that, and I said, 'Well, I appreciate that,' but he also said, 'But I am very patient, and China is very patient.'," Mr. Trump said. Mr. Trump and Mr. Xi held their first confirmed call of Mr. Trump's second presidential term in June. China views Taiwan as its own territory and has vowed to "reunify" with the democratic and separately governed island, by force if necessary. Taiwan strongly objects to China's sovereignty claims.

The Chinese Embassy in Washington on Friday described the topic of Taiwan as "the most important and sensitive issue" in China-U.S. relations.

"The U.S. should adhere to the one-China principle and the three U.S.-China joint communiqués, handle Taiwan-related issues prudently, and earnestly safeguard China-U.S. relations and peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait," embassy spokesperson Liu Pengyu said.

Rescue operations under way as over 340 killed in monsoon rain in Pakistan

Agence France-Presse
PESHAWAR

Rescuers struggled to retrieve bodies from muddy debris on Saturday after flash floods triggered by heavy monsoon rain across northern Pakistan killed at least 344 people in the past 48 hours, authorities said.

The majority of deaths, 324, were reported in mountainous Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, the National Disaster Management Authority said.

Most were killed after getting caught in flash floods and collapsing houses, while at least 137 others were injured.

One resident said it felt like "the end of the world" as the ground shook with the force of the water.

The provincial rescue agency said that around 2,000 rescue workers were engaged in recovering bodies from the debris and carrying out relief operations in nine districts, where rain was still hampering efforts.

"Heavy rainfall, landslides in several areas, and washed-out roads are causing significant challenges in delivering aid, particularly in transporting heavy machinery and ambulances," Bilal Ahmed Faizi, spokesman for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's rescue agency, said.

Mounting toll: People carry bodies of victims of Friday's flash floods in Buner district in Pakistan's northwest on Saturday. AP

He said road closures meant rescue workers had to walk to some of the disaster sites in remote regions.

"They are trying to evacuate survivors, but very few people are relocating due to the deaths of their relatives or loved ones being trapped in the debris," Mr. Faizi said.

Buner district deputy commissioner Kashif Qayum Khan also said rescuers were forced to find new ways to reach remote areas. "Many more people may still be trapped under the debris, which local residents cannot clear manually," Mr. Khan said.

The provincial government has declared the severely affected mountainous districts of Buner, Bajaur, Swat, Shangla, Mansehra and Battagram as disaster-hit areas.

The meteorological department has also issued a heavy rain alert for Pakistan's northwest, urging people to take "precautionary measures".

Eleven more persons were killed in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, and another nine in the northern Gilgit-Baltistan region, national officials said.

Five more were killed when a local government helicopter crashed due to bad weather during a relief mission on Friday.

The monsoon season brings South Asia about three-quarters of its annual rainfall, vital for agriculture and food security, but it also brings destruction. Landslides and flash floods are common during the season, which usually begins in June and eases by the end of September.

The torrential rains that have pounded Pakistan since the start of the summer monsoon, described as "unusual" by authorities, have killed more than 650 people, with more than 905 injured.

Danish PM says Israel PM Netanyahu has become a 'problem'

Agence France-Presse
COPENHAGEN

Mette Frederiksen

Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen said on Saturday that Israeli leader Benjamin Netanyahu has become a "problem", adding she would try to put pressure on Israel over the Gaza war as her country currently holds the European Union presidency.

"Netanyahu is now a problem in himself," Ms. Frederiksen said in an interview with the *Jyllands-Posten* daily, adding that the Israeli government was going "too far."

The centre-right leader slammed the "absolutely appalling and catastrophic" humanitarian situation in Gaza and new settlement project in the occupied West Bank.

"We are one of the countries that wants to increase pressure on Israel, but we have not yet obtained the support of EU members," she said.

Ms. Frederiksen added that she wanted to consider "political pressure, sanctions, whether against settlers, ministers, or even Israel as a whole," referring to trade or research sanctions.

"We are not ruling anything out in advance. Just as with Russia, we are designing the sanctions to target where we believe they will have the greatest effect," added Ms. Frederiksen, whose country is not among those who have said they will recognise the Palestinian state.

Israel's military offensive has killed more than 61,430 Palestinians, mainly civilians.

On Janmashtami, Yunus vows to uphold communal harmony

Press Trust of India
DHAKA

Bangladesh's Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus on Saturday greeted the country's Hindu community on Janmashtami, saying Lord Krishna's teachings will help strengthen "mutual goodwill and brotherhood" and maintain the nation's "existing order and communal harmony".

Mr. Yunus' greetings came amid widespread concerns over repeated incidents of alleged attacks on members of the Hindu community and their places of worship after he came to power in August last year.

In a message, Mr. Yunus said that Lord Krishna's values centred on "devotion to the creator and the establishment of peace in society" continue to inspire people of all faiths, the state-run Bangladesh *Sangbad Sangstha* (BSS) reported. "I call upon everyone to remain vigilant so that no one can undermine the existing order, fraternity, and communal amity in society," he said.

Mr. Yunus said that communal harmony is a "unique hallmark" of Bangladesh's culture and its people have practiced their respective religions while preserving "an enduring spirit of harmony" for centuries. He stressed that his interim government is "committed to keeping this bond of harmony unbroken".

By E-Mail/e-Despatch E_Mail ID:- serwcbaripada@gmail.com ; Ph.No. 06792-261343 / 261344
Gangraj, Baripada
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BARIPADA
"e" Procurement Notice for Plan Road Work
Identification No.- Online Tender-Road N.C.B. No.387 for 2025-26
Letter No. 3238 / Date : 13.8.25 //

1. Name of the Work : Road Work in the District of Mayurbhanj for the year 2024-25.
2. Total No. of Work : 02 Nos. (Two)
3. Estimated Cost : Rs.1210.30 Lakhs to Rs.1548.91 Lakhs (approximately).
4. Eligible Class of Contractor : As per Annexure
5. Period of Completion : As per Annexure
6. Other details

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E., R.W.Circle, Baripada. Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Baripada.	Road On-line N.C.B. No. 387	Dt.21.08.2025 at 11.00 A.M.	Dt.11.09.2025 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.10.09.2025 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.12.09.2025 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

- Further details can be seen from the website: www.tendersodisha.gov.in
- Any Corrigendum / Addendum will be displayed in the above e_tender website only.

Sd/- A.K.Naik, Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Baripada.
O-596: OIPR-25130/11/0049/2526

SRI VENKATESWARA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES-TIRUPATI
(A University established by an Act of A.P. State Legislature)
TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS
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Applications are invited from the eligible candidates with requisite qualifications and experience for the Faculty (Medical) posts of Professors, Associate Professors and Assistant Professors in Broad and Super Specialities.
PERSONS PROFESSING HINDU RELIGION SHOULD ONLY APPLY.
For more details and application form, please visit https://svimstpt.ap.nic.in
The Last Date for receipt of Applications is 08-09-2025.
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Roc No: C3/E-Office No: 2051596, Dated: 14-08-2025 Sd/- DIRECTOR-CUM-V.C.

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DELHI TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
(Established by Govt. of Delhi vide Act 6 of 2009)
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Notification for Special Spot Round B.Des. & M.Des. Admissions for Academic Session 2025-26
The Delhi Technological University (DTU) shall conduct a Special Spot Round for admissions in B.Des. and M.Des. Program for vacant seats on Thursday, 21.08.2025. in the Department of Design, DTU.
For details visit www.dtu.ac.in.
For any query contact bdes_admission@dtu.ac.in and mdes_admission@dtu.ac.in for B.Des admissions and for M.Des admissions respectively.
Sd/-
Registrar

FRUITFUL PARTNERSHIP

We were an odd couple, but it just sort of worked: Border on Simpson

THE HINDU ARCHIVES

Behind the scenes, he (Bob Simpson) was the sergeant major and disciplinarian, and that allowed me to do what I did best. Occasionally, I'd blow up but it never lasted for long. I suppose we were a bit of an odd couple, but it just sort of worked — former Australia captain Allan Border on ex-coach Simpson.

GREAT RESPECT

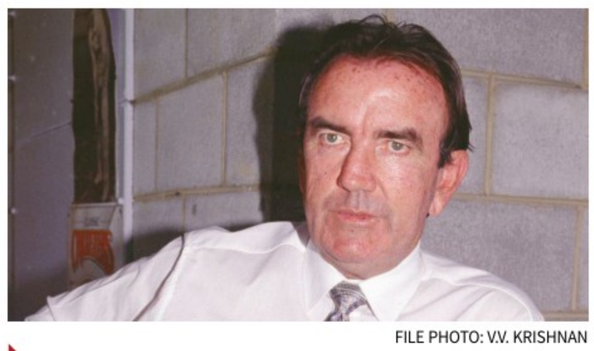
No one gave more to Australian cricket than Simpson: Steve Waugh

FILE PHOTO: CRICKET AUSTRALIA

No one gave more to Australian cricket than Bob Simpson — coach, player, commentator, writer, selector, mentor and journalist. He was quite simply the best cricket coach with an unparalleled knowledge of the game, together with an insatiable appetite for learning and imparting his wisdom — former Australia captain Steve Waugh.

HAYDENSPEAK

'Simmo's wisdom, grit and love for cricket left an indelible mark'



FILE PHOTO: V.V. KRISHNAN

"Vale Bob Simpson, one of Australian cricket's true giants, has left us. A master batsman, inspirational leader, coach and mentor — his legacy shaped generations of cricketers and the spirit of our great game. Simmo's wisdom, grit and love for cricket left an indelible mark — former Australia batter Matthew Hayden on Simpson.

HOMAGE

A gentleman to the core: Ganguly remembers Simpson

FILE PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

Former India captain Sourav Ganguly paid tribute to former Australia skipper and coach Bob Simpson. "RIP Bob Simpson... our memories of the 1999 World Cup and my stint with you in Lancashire will always be in my heart and memories. A gentleman to the core," Ganguly posted on X on Saturday.

Australian cricket legend Simpson passes away at 89

The all-rounder played in 62 Tests, including 39 as captain, and is rated as the greatest slip catcher the game has seen; as a coach he led the team's resurgence in the 1980s and oversaw several top players such as leg-spin maestro Warne

Agence France-Presse
SYDNEY

Former Australian cricket captain and coach Bob Simpson has died aged 89. Cricket Australia confirmed his death in Sydney in a statement on Saturday.

Simpson played in 62 Tests, captaining Australia in 39, at an average of 46.81. He also featured in a couple of one-dayers.

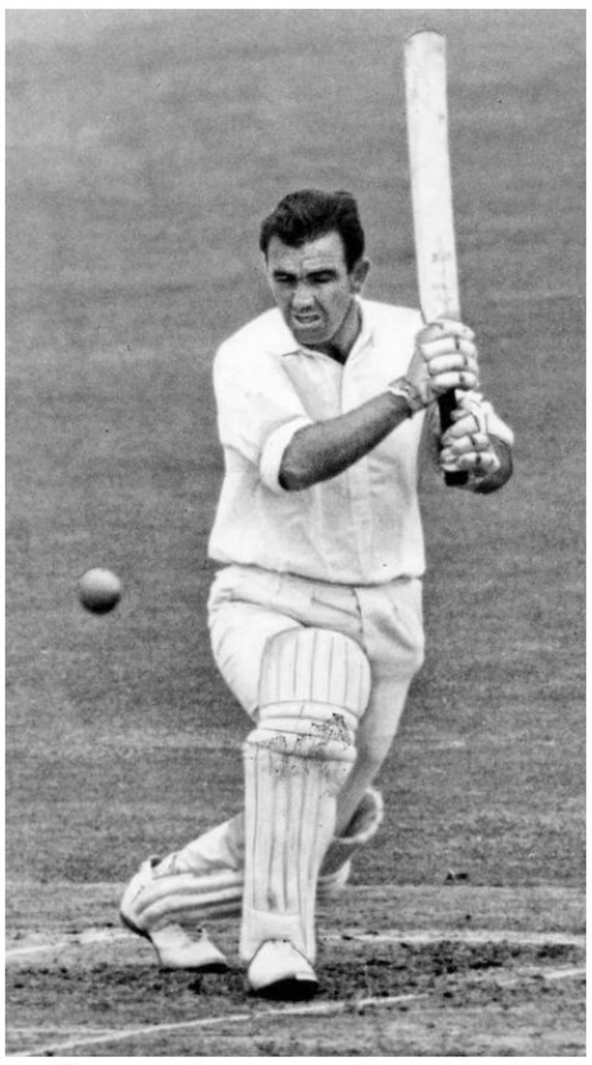
Simpson was the archetypal granite-jawed comic-book Australian cricketer who opened the batting, bowled leg-spin and is still cited as the greatest slip catcher the game has seen.

Across four decades, in different roles, he was a key figure in Australian cricket.

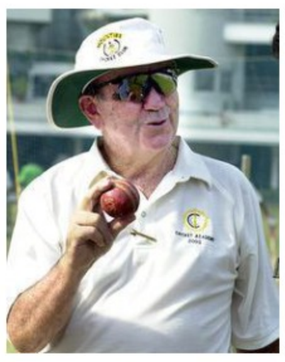
Picked for the first time on the 1957-58 tour of South Africa, Simpson took 30 Tests before scoring his first hundred against England at Manchester in 1964, by which time he was also skipper.

He made sure to cash in, going on to post 311 in that Old Trafford innings, the first of his Test centuries – at that time the second highest individual score by an Australian after Don Bradman's 334 against England in 1930.

He is one of only three batsman whose maiden Test centuries were triples, the others being the great West Indian Garry Sobers and India's Karun Nair.



Towering presence: Simpson was one of the most influential figures in Australian cricket. THE HINDU ARCHIVES & VIVEK BENDRE



Simpson's Test career
Matches: 62; **Runs:** 4869; **Highest:** 311; **100s:** 10; **50s:** 27; **Wickets:** 71; **Best:** 5/57

In 62 Tests, which stretched between 1957 and 1978, Simpson racked up 4,869 runs, took 71 wickets and pocketed 110 catches.

He had two spells as captain, first in the 1960s and then again as a 41-year-old recalled to the side a decade later when Kerry Packer's World Series Cricket (WSC) deprived Australia of its most experienced cricketers.

And in the mid-1980s he took over as coach, working alongside captain Allan Border to rebuild a mediocre Australia team and turning them into the dominant force in world cricket.

Simpson was born in the Sydney suburb of Marrickville on February 3, 1936.

He was still only 16 when he made his debut for New South Wales (NSW) against Victoria in the 1952-53 season.

It took a move to Western Australia though to get enough cricket to nudge the selectors. Once on the boat to South Africa he was to become a fixture in the side although it was not until he was paired with Bill Lawry at the top of the order in 1961 that he really made his presence felt.

Over a seven-year period they averaged over 60 for the first wicket and posted nine century partnerships, including a monumental 382 against the West Indies in Bridgetown in 1965.

It was the first time that two openers had both scored double-centuries in the same Test and remains a record for Australia's first wicket.

He took over the captaincy from Richie Benaud during the 1964-65 home series against South Africa but retired three years later to find a find a more secure living, initially as a journalist and then in public relations.

When the WSC split the game in 1977, causing most of Australia's leading players to be barred from the national team, Simpson came out of retirement to captain both NSW and Australia.

In 1986 he was appointed coach of an underperforming Australian team with his first priority to improve the quality of the fielding.

The result was almost instant as Australia won the 1987 World Cup and then embarked on a period under Border and then Mark Taylor, helped by the burgeoning talents of Shane Warne, Glenn McGrath, Steve Waugh and his twin Mark, when Australia finally overshadowed the West Indies as the best team on the planet.

BCCI introduces 'serious injury substitution rule' in multi-day tournaments

Amol Karhadkar
MUMBAI

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has decided to introduce "serious injury replacement substitute" rule in multi-day tournaments in the forthcoming domestic season, starting with the Duleep Trophy later this month.

The rule has been informed to all the domestic outfits and the participating teams in the Duleep Trophy.

The replacement player, barring an exceptional case of a wicketkeeper, has to be from the nominated substitutes at the start of the game.

"Under all circumstances, the serious injury replacement player shall be from nominated substitutes at the time of toss," states clause 1.2.8 of the playing conditions document, accessed by *The Hindu*.

"Only in the case where the wicketkeeper is seriously injured and needs a replacement then the match referee may allow a wicketkeeper from a player outside the nominated substitutes if there is no wicketkeeper in the nominated substitutes."

The rule amendment may be a step from the BCCI side to push for a similar rule amendment in international cricket.

During the recently concluded Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy, both India and England were forced to play a major chunk of a Test with a seriously injured player. While Rishabh Pant batted with a broken foot at Old Trafford, Chris Woakes walked out to bat at The Oval with a dislocated shoulder that was heavily bandaged.

Since then, the serious injury replacement issue has been widely discussed.

While the BCCI has been keen on the introduction of such a clause, the International Cricket Council is a divided house, with multiple cricketers being averse to the idea due to possible misuse of the rule.

Pant batted with a broken foot in the recent Old Trafford Test. GETTY IMAGES

Suryakumar clears fitness test

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Ahead of the Ajit Agarkar-led selection panel's meeting to pick India's Asia Cup squad, T20I skipper Suryakumar Yadav has cleared his fitness test at the BCCI Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru.

He had undergone surgery for a sports hernia in the lower-right abdomen in Munich in June.

"Fitness tests are mandatory before Return to Play post surgery. Surya has cleared the fitness test," a BCCI source said.

Maxwell leads Australia to series win

Agence France-Presse
CAIRNS

Glenn Maxwell took a brilliant catch before smashing a half-century to help Australia pip South Africa by two wickets and seal the three-match T20I series here on Saturday. In response to South Africa's 172 for seven, Australia was in trouble at 122 for six in the 14th over before Maxwell stepped up with an unbeaten 62. The Australian players wore black armbands in honour of Bob Simpson.

The scores: South Africa 172/7 in 20 overs (Brevis 53, Ellis 3/31) lost to Australia 173/8 in 19.5 overs (Maxwell 62 n.o., Marsh 54, Bosch 3/26); **Toss:** Australia; **PoM:** Maxwell; **PoS:** David.

CSK issues clarification on signing Brevis during IPL 2025

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Chennai Super Kings, in a statement on Saturday, clarified that its signing of Dewald Brevis as an injury replacement for Gurjapneet Singh was in "complete compliance" with IPL rules and regulations.

"Chennai Super Kings categorically clarifies that all actions taken by the franchise during the signing process of Dewald Brevis as a replacement player during TATA Indian Premier League 2025 were in complete compliance with the rules and regulations of IPL." Recently, confusion emerged after R. Ashwin, on his YouTube channel, said that two or three IPL teams were interested in signing Brevis, but CSK managed to get the South African by being willing to pay more.

"I heard two or three teams were in talks with Brevis. They had to let him go because they were not ready to pay extra money.

Brevis. FILE PHOTO: M. VEDHAN

There would have been discussions with the player agent where he would have agreed to come only if he got a certain amount of money. His concept would have been 'if I play this season, my value will go up in next year's auction.' So he might have told that if you pay extra, I will come, and CSK was willing to do that, which is why he came," said Ashwin.

Brevis, who had a base price of ₹75 lakh, went unsold in the IPL auction held in Jeddah last year. The South African was then signed for ₹2.2 crore, the same amount CSK bid for Gurjapneet.

CSK added in its statement: "A replacement player signed pursuant to either paragraph 6.1 or 6.2 can be recruited at a League Fee which shall not be more than the League Fee that would have been payable to the injured/unavailable player for the relevant season.

"If a replacement player is recruited during a season, the League Fee actually paid to him will be reduced to take account of the franchisee's matches during the relevant season which took place before he was registered and any other relevant deductions under the player contract."

Brevis scored 225 runs at a strike-rate of 180 in the six matches he played for CSK.

Liverpool wins a thriller; strong start for Man City

EURO LEAGUES

Agence France-Presse
LIVERPOOL

Liverpool and Manchester City had contrasting winning starts to their Premier League campaigns. The defending champion struck twice in the final minutes through Federico Chiesa and Mohamed Salah to overcome Bournemouth 4-2 on Friday, whereas Pep Guardiola's City had an easier 4-0 win over Wolves on Saturday.

Antoine Semenyo looked to have rescued a point for the Cherries by scoring twice, after he had reported an incident of racial abuse from a fan, to cancel out Hugo Ekitike and Cody Gakpo's strikes for Liverpool.

On Saturday, Richarlison scored twice to give Tottenham manager Thomas Frank a dream home debut with a 3-0 win over Burnley while Sunderland shocked West Ham 3-0 on its return to the Premier League. Newcastle missed the unsettled Alexander Isak as it failed to find the breakthrough against 10-man Aston Villa in a 0-0 draw.

Fulham's Rodrigo Muniz struck in the 96th minute to salvage a 1-1 draw at Brighton after Matt O'Riley's penalty put the Seagulls in front.

Unlikely hero: Chiesa, left, thunders in Liverpool's go-ahead goal after Bournemouth levelled things through Semenyo. AP

The results:
Premier League: Aston Villa 0 drew with Newcastle 0; Brighton 1 (O'Riley 55-pen) drew with Fulham 1 (Muniz 90+6).

Sunderland 3 (Mayenda 61, Ballard 73, Isidor 90+2) bt West Ham United 0; Tottenham 3 (Richarlison 10, 60, Johnson 66) bt Burnley 0; Wolves 0 lost to Manchester City 4 (Haaland 34, 61, Reijnders 37, Cherki 81).

On Friday:

Premier League: Liverpool 4 (Ekitike 37, Gakpo 49, Chiesa 88, Salah 90+4) bt Bournemouth 2 (Semenyo 64, 76).

LaLiga: Girona 1 (Roca 57) lost to Rayo Vallecano 3 (De Frutos 18, Garcia 20, Palazon 45-pen); Villarreal 2 (Eyong 29, Gueye 36) bt Real Oviedo 0.

NEUFC and Lajong secure semifinal spots

DURAND CUP

Sports Bureau

Defending champion NorthEast United FC proved too good for the local side Bodoland FC, romping to a 4-0 win in a quarterfinal of the 134th Durand Cup at the SAI Stadium in Kokrajhar on Saturday.

Moroccan striker Alaaeddine Ajaraie proved his worth again as he found the target twice while Andy Rodríguez and Parthib Gogoi scored one goal each to complete NorthEast United's impressive scoreline.

NorthEast United will meet Shillong Lajong FC at the latter's home in Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Shillong in the first semifinal on Tuesday, which will be a virtual repeat of the previous edition's contest.

Shillong Lajong FC recovered from a goal down to overcome the challenge of Indian Navy football team 2-1 in the first quarterfinal at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Shillong. Goals from Damaitphang Lyngdoh and Everbrightson Sana, who scored a penalty, late in the second half helped the home team secure its second straight semifinal appearance in the tournament.

NEUFC players celebrate a goal.

The results: Quarterfinals: At Shillong: Shillong Lajong FC 2 (Damait Lyngdoh 69, Everbrightson Sana 79-pen) bt Indian Navy FT 1 (Vijay Marandi 38).

At Kokrajhar: NorthEast United FC 4 (Alaaeddine Ajaraie 29, 61, Andy Rodríguez 53, Parthib Gogoi 90+2) bt Bodoland FC 0.

INBRIEF

Aronian claims the title; Gukesh finishes tied sixth

D. Gukesh finished tied sixth as Levon Aronian convincingly won the St. Louis Rapid and Blitz tournament in St. Louis (USA). The Indian GM drew three and lost two games to end his overall campaign on 18 points. Fabiano Caruana finished a distant second on 21.5 points, half-a-point more than Maxime Vachier-Lagrave.

Shreya wins bronze in Trofeo Simone Lombardi Regatta

India's Shreya Krishna Lakshminarayanan finished 29th overall and third among girls in the 31st Trofeo Simone Lombardi Regatta optimist category held in Lake Garda (Italy) on Thursday. Representing the Tamil Nadu Sailing Association, the 15-year-old was the lone Asian to finish on the podium among a total fleet of 327 sailors.

Sidharth loses to top seed in Bali ITF semifinals

Sidharth Rawat was beaten 6-2, 6-4 by top seed Arthur Gea of France in the semifinals of the $30,000 ITF men's tennis tournament in Bali, Indonesia, on Saturday.

Other result: €91,250 Challenger, Todi, Italy: Doubles (semifinals): Daniel Cukierman (Isr) & Johannes Ingildsen (Den) bt Arjun Kadhe & Vijay Sundar Prashanth 6-3, 6-4.

USA secures berth in under-19 men's Cricket World Cup

The USA team, led by wicketkeeper-batter Arjun Mahesh, became the 16th and final side to secure a place in the under-19 men's Cricket World Cup, to be jointly hosted by Zimbabwe and Namibia next year. USA locked its spot in the global event with a game in hand by emphatically beating Canada, Bermuda and Argentina in the double round-robin Qualifier played in Rydal, Georgia.

Kickstart slams 15 past Legends de Sporting

Kickstart FC whipped Legends de Sporting FC 15-0 in the KSFA Karnataka Women's League football tournament in Bengaluru.

The results: Kickstart FC bt Legends de Sporting FC 15-0; Kemp FC bt Pass FC 2-1.

Marc Marquez wins Austrian GP sprint from second row

Ducati's Marc Marquez won the Austrian Grand Prix sprint on Saturday despite starting on the second row of the grid, beating his brother and closest contender Alex to the finish line at the Red Bull Ring. The victory moves Marc 123 points clear of Gresini Racing's Alex at the top and 180 above Ducati teammate Francesco Bagnaia. KTM's Pedro Acosta came thirdwhile Aprilia's pole sitter Marco Bezzecchi finished fourth.

Yuvraj Sandhu reigns supreme in Mysuru Open

Yuvraj Sandhu with a four-day aggregate score of 31-under-249 (61, 65, 62, 61) clinched the title in the PGTI Mysuru Open golf in Mysuru on Friday. Bangladesh's Jamal Hossain finished second with a total score of 23-under-257. Delhi's Arjun Prasad secured the third place with a total score of 22-under-258.

Final placings: 1. Yuvraj Sandhu (249 - 61, 65, 62, 61), 2. Jamal Hossain (257 - 62, 65, 64, 66), 3. Arjun Prasad (258 - 66, 62, 64, 66).

LIVE TELECAST

Football: Durand Cup, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4 & 7 p.m.

Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 6.30 & 9 p.m.

LaLiga: FanCode, 8.30, 11 p.m. & 1 a.m. (Monday)

Divya's bold and right move to play in open section of Grand Swiss

The World Cup champion and Russia's Goryachkina will battle it out against male players; the Indian stands to gain from the experience

CHESS

P.K. Ajith Kumar

So Divya Deshmukh will be taking on the men at the FIDE Grand Swiss chess tournament in Uzbekistan next month.

She would have stood a better chance of winning the title if she had opted to play in the women's section of the high profile event. Instead she has chosen to start as one of the lower seeds in the open category (unlike in other sports, women are free to compete with men in chess). She got a wild card from FIDE for the open section along with Russian Aleksandra Goryachkina.

The biggest attraction about the Grand Swiss is that the champion and the runner-up will qualify for next year's Candidates tournament. That event is the qualifier for the World championship. Divya and Goryachkina have already booked their tickets for the Candidates: the Indian as the winner of the recent World Cup and the Russian from the FIDE Women's Grand Prix.

Stepping up: Divya will be testing her skills in the open event. FIDE

So their decision to play in the open event at the Grand Swiss makes sense. Regardless of their results, Divya and Goryachkina will gain from their experience at Samarkand.

After becoming the first Indian woman to lift the World Cup, the 19-year-old is now at an important stage of her career. Playing against higher rated male players could make her a stronger player.

The woman whom she defeated in the World Cup final, Koneru Humpy, is an example. The first woman from India to get the Grandmaster title had tried to play as many open tournaments as possible, from the time she was a little girl.

And Humpy often ruffled many a male ego. She, in fact, won the Asian under-12 boys' title in 1999. She was also sensational at a couple of National men's 'A' championships, winning successive games.

Hungary's Judit Polgar was the one who showed the way to Humpy and other female warriors on the chessboard. She was once ranked No. 8 in the world among men (the more politically correct term 'open' would come in vogue only later). And her victims included several male World champions including Garry Kasparov and Viswanathan Anand.

Before Judit Polgar, there have been players like Pia Cramling, the Swedish great who played at both the open and women's Olympiads.

To go back to the Grand Swiss: the reigning champions are both Indians. In what was one of the greatest moments for India chess, Vidit Gujrathi and R. Vaishali had triumphed in the open and women's sections respectively, much against the odds, on the Isle of Man in late 2023.

Pyrite and Galahad should fight out the finish of the Nizam's Gold Cup (Gr. 2)

RACING

HYDERABAD: Pyrite and Galahad should fight out the finish of the Nizam's Gold Cup (Gr.2), the main attraction of Sunday's (Aug. 17) races.
There will be no false rails.

1 DONCASTER PLATE (1,100m), (Terms) Maiden, 3-y-o only – 1.30 p.m.: 1. Arizona Sun (1) B.R. Kumar 56, 2. Beech Wood (2) Gaurav 56, 3. Photograph (14) G. Naresh 56, 4. Smart Operator (3) Surya Prakash 56, 5. Emerald Touch (9) Neeraj 54.5, 6. Faizah (8) Trevor 54.5, 7. Foxy Girl (11) H.M. Akshay 54.5, 8. Infinia (4) Ashad Asbar 54.5, 9. Live Legend (7) Ajay K 54.5, 10. N R I High Power (13) Akshay K 54.5, 11. Nyanza (5) Md. Ismail 54.5, 12. Shreshhtha (12) Mukesh K 54.5, 13. Silver Screen (10) R.S. Jodha 54.5 and 14. Vedanta (6) Afroz K 54.5.
1. N R I HIGH POWER,
2. FOXY GIRL,
3. INFINIA

2 GADWAL PLATE (1,800m), 5-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 2.05: 1. Federer (3) P. Ajeeth K 60, 2. Nkalanzinzi (2) Ashad Asbar 58.5, 3. Das (7) H.M. Akshay 57.5, 4. Path Of Peace (6) Surya Prakash 56, 5. Alpine Girl (4) Kuldeep Jr. 55.5, 6. Exponent (1) Nakhat 51.5, 7. Take A Breath (5) Ajay K 51 and 8. Silver Arrow (8) P. Sai K 50.5.
1. SILVER ARROW,
2. FEDERER,
3. NKALANZINZI

3 COLONEL B. SANTOSH BABU MEMORIAL CUP (2,000m), 3-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II) – 2.40: 1. Dapper Look (3) Akshay K 60, 2. Challenger (7) Md. Ekram 57, 3. Freedom Touch (5) Neeraj 56, 4. Newfound Glory (6) Santosh Raj 56, 5. Racing Ruler (2) P. Sai K 55.5, 6. Black Dust (4) Ajay K 54.5 and 7. Krystallos (1) Ashad Asbar 53.5.
1. BLACK DUST,
2. DAPPER LOOK,
3. RACING RULER

4 BROWN JACK PLATE (1,100m), 4-y-o and upward, rated upto 25 (Cat. III) – 3.15 (no whips race): 1. Always Special (8) Ashad Asbar 60, 2. Taaliyah (12) Deepak Singh 60, 3. Mirzeta (13) A.A. Vikrant 59, 4. Noorian (9) Ajay K 59, 5. Anagha (7) Mukesh K 58.5, 6. If You Like It (6) Sonu K 58.5, 7. Most Beautiful (4) Akshay K 58, 8. Bien Pensant (2) Surya Prakash 57,5, 9. Prince (1) Md. Ekram 56.5, 10. Grey Sky (10) R.S. Jodha 56, 11. Niloufer The Great (3) H.M. Akshay 54.5, 12. Lucky Fiero (11) Kuldeep Jr. 54 and 13. Blue Brigade (5) Kuldeep Sr. 53.5.
1. ALWAYS SPECIAL,
2. BIEN PENSANT,
3. MOST BEAUTIFUL

5 TELANGANA AND ANDHRA SUB AREA CUP (1,600m), 3-y-o and upward, rated 60 to 85 (Cat. II) – 3.50: 1. Nonpariel (2) Mukesh 60, 2. Brooklyn Beauty (7) B. Nikhil 57.5, 3. Lucky Zone (3) Kuldeep Jr. 56.5, 4. Dali's Destiny (9) Yash Narredu 54, 5. Golden Gazelle (4) H.M. Akshay 54, 6. Get Lucky (10) Md. Ekram 53.5, 7. Kings Best (5) P. Sai K 53, 8. Secret Saint (1) Trevor 53, 9. Dyanoosh (8) Surya Prakash 52.5 and 10. Fly Tothe Stars (6) Likith Appu 50.
1. SECRET SAINT,
2. NONPARIEL,
3. KINGS BEST

6 NIZAM'S GOLD CUP (GR. II) (2,000m) (Terms), 4-y-o and upward – 4.25: 1. Galahad (5) Trevor 56, 2. Queen Of Kings (3) A.A. Vikrant 55.5, 3. Shadow Of The Moon (4) Afroz K 55, 4. Victor Hugo (6) Vivek G 55, 5. Pyrite (1) Sandesh 54.5, 6. Rise And Reign (2) Yash Narredu 54.5 and 7. Silver Act (7) Mukesh K 53.5.
1. PYRITE,
2. GALAHAD,
3. RISE AND REIGN

7 KARIMNAGAR PLATE (Div. I) (1,200m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III) – 5.00: 1. Great Giver (3) Kuldeep Jr. 60, 2. Sargent (8) H.M. Akshay 59.5, 3. Classy Dame (6) Sonu K 58.5, 4. Fashion Icon (5) Akshay K 58, 5. Swiss Girl (10) Md. Ismail 57, 6. Anemoi (12) Surya Prakash 56.5, 7. Hawk Wing (4) S. Shareef 55.5, 8. Golden Inzio (11) Ajay K 54, 9. In Proposito (2) B.R. Kumar 53, 10. London Bell (13) Nakhat 52.5, 11. Cherish The Lady (7) P. Sai K 51.5, 12. City Cruise (14) Abhay Singh 51.5, 13. Dali's Champion (1) G. Naresh 51.5 and 14. Bold Indian (9) B. Nikhil 50.
1. FASHION ICON,
2. GREAT GIVER,
3. CHERISH THE LADY
Day's Best: **SILVER ARROW**
Jackpot: 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7.
Mini Jackpot: (i) 1, 2, 3 & 4. (ii) 4, 5, 6 & 7.
Treble: (i) 2, 3 & 4, (ii) 5, 6 & 7.
Tanala: All races.

Tanya lifts Saipan International title

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Top seed Tanya Hemanth of India capped off a strong run at the Saipan International badminton 2025 with a straight-game win over Japan's Kanae Sakai in the women's final on Saturday. The 21-year-old, ranked 86th in the world, defeated the unseeded Sakai 15-10, 15-8 to secure her fourth international series title.

Saipan International is part of the Badminton World Federation's trial events for the experimental 3x15 scoring system, where each game is played to 15 points instead of the conventional 21.

Tanya. FILE PHOTO

En route to the title, Tanya overcame Japan's Ririna Hiramoto in the semifinals, Singapore's Lee Xin Yi Megan in the quarterfinals and beat Japan's Nodoka Sunakawa in the round-of-16 after receiving a bye in the opening round.

Top seed Anahat sets up title clash with Habiba

SQUASH

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Top seed Anahat Singh overcame hiccups to beat Nour Khafagy of Egypt 10-12, 11-5, 11-5, 10-12, 11-7 in 54 minutes in the semifinals of the $27,500 Bega Open PSA women's squash tournament in Australia on Saturday.

After a sluggish start, Anahat did have the match in control, and led 10-7 in the fourth set before Khafagy stepped up her game to make a fight of it by reeling off five points.

In the decider, Anahat led 9-6 when she literally caught Khafagy on the wrong foot, as the Egyptian lost balance at the back court and crashed. After medical time out, Anahat closed out the match with a similar shot that had Khafagy in a tangle.

In the final, Anahat will play second seed Habiba Hani of Egypt who overcame the resistance from Akanksha Salunkhe with a 11-9, 7-11, 12-10, 11-6 victory in 42 minutes.

The results (semifinals): Anahat Singh bt Nour Khafagy (Egy) 10-12, 11-5, 11-5, 10-12, 11-7; Habiba Hani (Egy) bt Akanksha Salunkhe 11-9, 7-11, 12-10, 11-6.

Chhetri not in Jamil's probables list for CAFA Nations Cup

Up in the air: It is unclear whether Chhetri asked not be considered for selection or if coach Jamil decided to rest him. FILE PHOTO: PTI

FOOTBALL

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Talismanic striker Sunil Chhetri has been left out of the 35 probables named by newly-appointed Indian football team head coach Khalid Jamil for the upcoming CAFA Nations Cup in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

It's unlikely that he was dropped on the basis of his form in the four matches he played after coming back from his international retirement. However, it's also not known whether Chhetri himself requested not to be considered, or if he was rested as his Indian Super League (ISL) side Bengaluru FC is yet to start pre-season training.

However, Jamil's list of probables includes other BFC players like goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, defenders Chinglensana Singh, Rahul Bheke, Roshan Singh Naorem, and midfieler Suresh Singh.

The players will began training in Bengaluru from Saturday with 22 players having reported to the camp so far. The remaining 13 other players are expected to join the camp after completing their Durand Cup engagements with their respective clubs.

Out of the remaining 13, seven – Anirudh Thapa, Deepak Tangri, Lalengmawia Ralte, Liston Colaco, Manvir Singh, Sahal Abdul Samad, Vishal Kaith – are from Mohun Bagan, three – Anwar Ali, Jeakson Singh, Naorem Mahesh Singh – are from East Bengal and one – Jithin M.S. – from NorthEast United.

Sisodiya and Nikin make it a stroll in the park for Gulbarga Mystics

MAHARAJA TROPHY

C.K. Muralidharan
MYSURU

Gulbarga Mystics rode on a stroke-filled 58 not out (24b, 5x4, 4x6) by opener Luvnith Sisodiya and S.J. Nikin Jose's unbeaten 34 (15b, 5x4, 1x6) to register a 10-wicket win over Shivamogga Lions in a rain-hit Maharaja Trophy match here on Saturday.

Southpaw Sisodiya and fellow opener Nikin played some sparkling strokes and took heavy toll on medium-pacer Vidwath Kaverappa by plundering 40 runs in his two overs in pursuit of a revised target of 92 (VJD method) in nine overs. Earlier, put in to bat Lions posted 127 for five in 15.5 overs, when heavy downpour stopped play.

Play resumed after two inspections and Lions' innings was terminated at the same score.

Opener Dhruv Prabhakar (44, 27b, 4x4, 3x6) top-scored for Lions. Mystics have four points from as many games and are placed fourth in the table.

Firing on all cylinders: Sisodiya scored a sparkling unbeaten 58. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Dragons beat Tigers

In the second match on Friday, a valuable knock of 62 (47b, 4x4, 4x6) by one-drop batsman K.V. Aneesh and an all-round performance by M. Kranthi Kumar (30 n.o. & 4/28) enabled Mangaluru Dragons register a 16-run win over Hubli Tigers and top the table with seven points from four games.

The scores: Shivamogga Lions 127/5 in 15.5 overs (Dhruv Prabhakar 44, Shashi Kumar Kamble 2/22) lost to Gulbarga Mystics 93/0 in 6.3 overs (Luvnith Sisodiya 58 n.o., S.J.Nikin Jose 34 n.o.). **Note:** Match reduced to nine overs, revised target of 92. **Toss:** Gulbarga; **PoM:** Sisodiya.
On Friday: Mangaluru Dragons 195/5 in 20 overs (K.V. Aneesh 62, Macneil Noronha 58, Kranthi Kumar 30 n.o., Nithin Nagaraja 2/54) bt Hubli Tigers 179/9 in 20 overs (Prakhar Chaturvedi 37, Devdutt Padikkal 60, Shreyas Gopal 2/33, M. Kranthi Kumar 4/28, Shreevatsha Acharya 2/20). **Toss:** Hubli Tigers; **PoM:** M. Kranthi Kumar.